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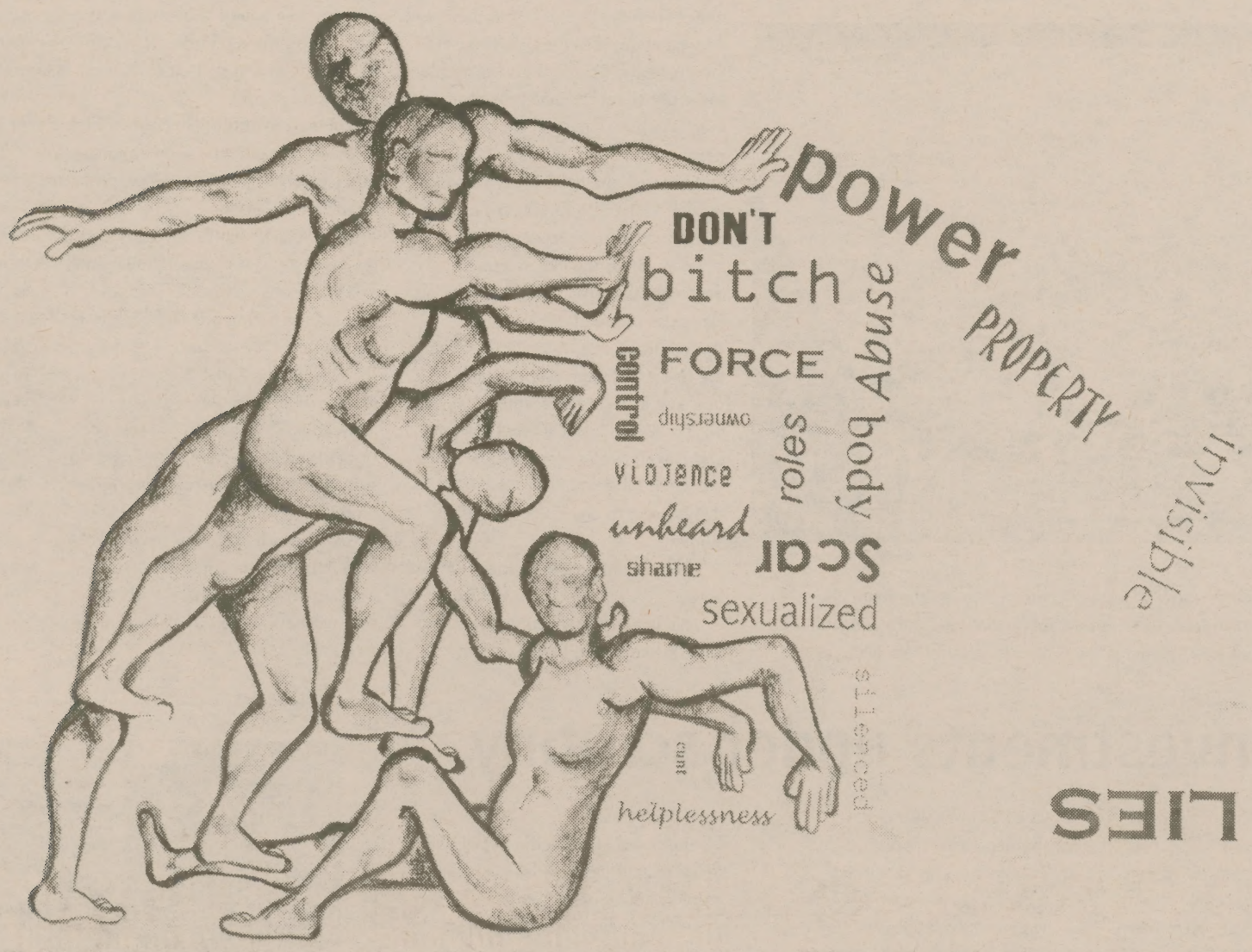
END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

DECEMBER 6 / 2001 [54.17]



UVic memorial raises awareness

by Suzanne Beaubien

December 6 marks the twelfth anniversary of the brutal massacre of 14 female engineering students at L'École Polytechnique in Montreal.

The date was declared the National day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women by Canadian Parliament in 1991 and will be commemorated here on campus.

"It's a time for people to remember," said Kate Dimofski, campaign and events planner for the UVic Women's Centre. "But it's also a time to become active."

Twelve years ago 25 year-old Marc Lepine walked into the university on the last day of class before Christmas holidays to seek out the women that he felt were ruining his life. Lepine had earlier been denied admission to L'École Polytechnique's engineering program.

Armed with an assault rifle he separated the women from the men and gunned down 14 female students yelling "you are all feminists," before shooting himself.

On Thursday across Canada, vigils and memorials will commemorate these young women who died because of their gender.

Two events planned by UVic groups to memorialize the tragic killings will address issues of violence against women and attempt to promote awareness of sexualized violence on an international scale.

On Dec. 6 a memorial service will be held outside the MacLaurin Building at the pyramid.

Linda Dryden, chair of UVic's board of governors, will emcee the ceremony that begins at 11:45 a.m. Valerie Kuehne, associate vice-president of academics, will speak about the continuing relevance of the Montreal massacre while Mehmoona Moosa-Mitha, professor of social work at UVic, will address the effects of ongoing world violence.

Jeff Richards, president of the Engineering Student's Society (ESS), and Diana Walker, ESS secretary will also speak at the event.

Although Walker, a second-year mechanical engineering student, was only seven years old when the shootings occurred, she said she and Richards will try to make both male and female students relate to the events that many of them may not even remember.

As one of four female students in her year, Walker also said it is important to address the role of women in engineering.

"There is no reason why females shouldn't be allowed to succeed in something they are good at," she said.

The UVic Women's Center, along with Camosun College's Women's Center, Men Against Sexualized Violence and Status of Women Action Group is holding a memorial coffee house Thursday evening at Solstice Café on Pandora Avenue.

So far 12 people have signed on to speak or perform at the event that will both honour the memories of the women slain for their gender and raise issues connected to gendered violence.

Following the scheduled speakers and performers there will be an open mic session to allow for informal discussion on sexualized violence.

Dimofski said the coffeehouse will attempt to expand the definition of violence against women.

"The focus on Montreal is a problem because it suggests that it was the pinnacle of violence against women and that nothing has happened since then," Dimofski said.

Eliza Walter, social work student at UVic and coordinator for the Women's Center, also said she finds the concept of having a single day or week dedicated to remembering victims of violence difficult because it gives people a sense that the issue is only important on the specific day.

"But what happens the rest of the year?" she asked.

As the victims and their families no longer want their daughters' names used in conjunction with the day's events, both Dimofski and Walter think it is important for the coffeehouse to focus instead on the underlying social structures that incite violence against women.

"All these separate stories link to form the background for these events," said Walter. "They show us that sexism is entrenched within everyday life."

graphic by Joanna Wong

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Students wary of increased tuition rates next year

by Elissa Bergman and Anne Larrass

University of Victoria students have mixed feelings about the tuition freeze review being conducted by the provincial government. Most are concerned that tuition could skyrocket by next September if the freeze is lifted.

Amber Cowrie, a second year writing student, transferred here from Carleton because of the province's low tuition. She said she couldn't afford the $5,000 a year charged in her program in Ontario. She works during school and tree plants in the summer. She is not on a student loan right now.

"If the freeze is lifted I wont be able to afford to go to school," she said. "I will have to take out a loan."

Cowrie admits that one bonus of high tuition in Ontario is that there are no waitlists whereas at UVic there are long waitlists. Cowrie is on waitlists for some of her courses and admits that it may take her longer to finish her degree.

Last week the UVSS staged a soup kitchen in the SUB to raise awareness about the freeze review and tell students about the Feb. 6 student demonstration. The union served Kraft Dinner as the symbolic starving-student food. The UVSS thinks lifting the freeze will harm students and decrease access to education.

"I've seen a lot of student poverty," said Director of Academics Sarah Webb. "If tuition goes up, that will deny access to university for many students."

Director of Services Michelle Kinney agreed.

"We need students to understand what is happening before they're slapped in the face," Kinney said. "People have a false impression that diminishing the tuition freeze means that tuition would be indexed to inflation."

> We need students to understand what is happening before they're slapped in the face.
> *Michelle Kinney, UVSS Director of Services*

Kinney added if provincial funding is cut, increases in UVic's operational budget will likely have to be covered by tuition increases.

Each year the university's costs go up about 5 per cent due to inflation and salaries, which would amount to a 30 per cent tuition increase each year for the next three years, she said.

"Next year's students could be looking at $750 more for tuition," Kinney said. "At the end of three years, students could be paying well over 90 per cent of what they're paying today on tuition."

UVic Communications spokesperson Patti Pitts said the university is still working on what financial shortfalls they will have if they don't receive an increase in funding.

"UVSS figures are pretty close if based on five per cent," Pitts said. "Its about 30 per cent if all taken on by tuition."

Pitts added that even if tuition does increase, services will not be improved.

"You would [need] the shortfall plus more," she said.

Catherine MacRae, a first-year humanities major, said if the tuition freeze is lifted, it will have a significant impact on her.

"I had an entrance scholarship this year but I don't think I'll get it again," MacRae said. "$750 is a lot, so next year I might have to get a student loan."

But Susan Dickson, a third-year UVic student, said she is ambivalent toward tuition increases.

"As long as I can get an education and get money from the government, I'm happy," Dickson said.

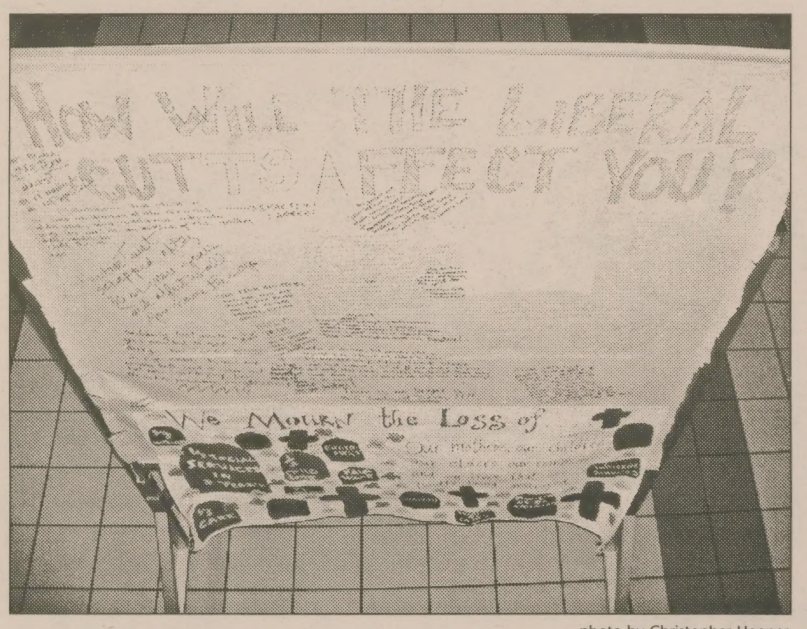

photo by Christopher Hooper

The UVic Womens' Centre and a social work community development class set up a board in the SUB for students to sound off about social program cuts, the tuition freeze review and other notable things the provincial government is doing.

UVic investments under scrutiny

by John Thompson

UVic's Board of Governors (BOG) recently discussed the social responsibility of university investment policies, or lack thereof.

"We have very little, if any, policy on social responsibility," said George Ford during the meeting. "We may have policy in name, but essentially we have no policy on social responsibility and ethical investment."

The discussion was spurred by a student petition with over 200 names calling for UVic to divest from Talisman Oil, Shell Oil, Imperial Oil, Slocan Forest Products and TD Bank.

The petition also called on the university to implement ethical screening for their investments and engage in shareholder activism. University investments are held within the faculty pension, staff pension, endowment fund, and various short term investments.

The BOG only has direct governance over short-term investments, so discussion was restricted to policy over that fund.

During the meeting the board was presented with a suggested course of action, drawn up by the vice president of finance, Jack Falk.

The course of action made the recommendation against ethical screening, but said that shareholder activism or raising concerns with management, directors and other shareholders should be considered.

"Shareholder activism is how we vote," Ford said.

However, during the meeting it became clear several board members believed simple ethical screens could be implemented.

"I feel that the exclusion of any screening is going further than we need," said Ford, although he shared Falk's concerns with complicated environmental screens, which he said were problematic.

Any university investment policy needs to satisfy provincial law, which requires trustees to act in the shareholder's best financial interest.

But several board members said ethical investment and financial returns were not mutually exclusive.

"I don't think there's a necessary relationship between the two," said Ed Berry.

In the end, board members decided to send the report back to the finance and facilities committee for further review. The committee will reconvene in January.

UVic student Glenys Verhulst, who helped organize the petition, said she is optimistic about the board's response and hopes to get extra support from faculty members next, whose pension plan is another area of investment open to ethical scrutiny.

photo by Horia Corman

Katrina Shackerton chained herself to the downtown Victoria Recruitment Centre's door to send an anti-war message to Western governments. The action was part of the student walkout against the war on Nov. 29 when hundreds of people marched from UVic, Camosun and various high schools to downtown Victoria to withdraw thier consent from the war in Afghanistan (see story on page three).

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Walkout against war draws hundreds from schools

by Brodie Waddell

UVic students walked out of their classes Nov. 29 to demonstrate against the war in Afghanistan. The rally started at the university with a brief gathering at the fountain then headed for Centennial Square, stopping at local schools along the way.

"Its important to be vocal about opposing Bush's war," said UVic student Joel Herman. "Because otherwise such views won't penetrate the supportive veneer that the governments are [using to] justify this sort of action."

Students from Camosun College, Lansdowne Secondary, Vic High and Central Jr. Secondary joined the march at each stop and encouraged others to do so as well. The march was 300 strong by the time it reached downtown Victoria.

Marchers said they came out to protest the war being conducted by the US in Afghanistan.

"This [war] is not self-defense, this is revenge," said long-time activist Joan Russo." And it is going to continue until we get more people out speaking on the streets."

"The turnout [for the walk-out] is pretty impressive," said Seth Mangerin, a passerby who stopped to watch. "I think it's cool that they're out here. They believe in something and they're willing to walk through the streets to protest it."

At Centennial Square speakers told the demonstrators this was a war against civilians and was a dangerously inadequate way to fight terrorism.

A prolonged free-style rap by Nikita Chaptman generated particular applause. Chaptman addressed the war's connections to global inequities, the 'military-industrial complex' and the need for protest in the future.

But critics of the demonstration were equally vocal when asked about the walk-out.

"I don't think [these students] know shit from shovel," said retiree Doug Jones. "These fools are marching and taking days off of class that we're paying tax dollars for. For what? They don't even know."

After the speeches the march proceeded to the local military recruitment centre for the final phase of the demonstration.

Students chanted slogans accusing the Canadian and American governments of war crimes and criticized the apparent connection between the war and US oil companies.

Victoria Police escorted the march and didn't interfere until an American flag was lit on fire and several eggs were thrown at the recruitment centre's windows.

Some demonstrators condemned the egg throwing as police moved in and after a few tense moments the situation calmed down.

Around this same time Katrina Shackerton chained herself to the centre's door to send a message to Western governments.

"I disagree strongly and fundamentally with any form of violence," she said. "[These] governments are waging a war against innocent people, supposedly in the name of fighting terrorism, which is really only breeding more terrorism."

The banners were later removed and Shackerton unchained herself. No arrests were made.

Photo by Horia Coman

Marchers head downtown to protest the war in Afghanistan.

Government too slow to establish coastal protection

by Marnie Friesen

Environmentalists are concerned with the length of time it is taking to establish Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) on B.C.'s coast.

The protection areas, sometimes called Marine Conservation Areas, are ocean areas protected from activities such as ocean dumping, dredging and oil and gas development.

Despite widespread public support and growing scientific evidence for the benefit of MPAs, the provincial government has been slow to legislate to protect these areas.

"We need to have a planning process in place," said Sabine Jessen, Conservation Director for the Canadian Parks and Wildlife Society (CPAWS). "If these activities continue, we're not going to be in a position to protect these areas."

Earlier this year an international group of more than 160 marine scientists found that the establishment of such areas increased marine population density and biodiversity within and outside of protected boundaries.

Environmental groups like the CPAWS would like to add bottom trawling to the list of banned activities in MPAs.

Members of the group insisted that to properly protect an area, fishing and open-net aquaculture activities must be reduced, including some "no-take zones" that would restrict seafood harvesting.

A recent environmental poll that CPAWS took part in found that more than 75 per cent of British Columbians support the creation of MPAs.

Jessen added that although the provincial government is on the right track it seems to have lost momentum on the issue since the late 1990s.

Meanwhile commercial and recreational fisheries and potential oil and gas developments on the coast threaten potential MPAs such as Gwaii Haanas (around South Moresby Island in Haida Gwaii) and the Southern Gulf Islands.

According to John Bones, director of coastal planning and marine planning with the B.C. Ministry of Sustainable Resources, provincial and federal governments are working on the issue, but progress is slow because of the number of groups involved in decision-making. He also pointed out there are already more than 100 marine parks in B.C., a few of which extend protection to marine life in surrounding waters.

"The coastal zone is fraught with jurisdictional complexity," said Bones, noting that three federal and three provincial government ministries are working together to create MPAs.

Provincial agencies, as well as Parks Canada and Environment Canada, can identify areas to be protected, but only Fisheries and Oceans Canada has the authority to enact any fishery closures.

The province also controls of the seabed in inland waters, an integral part of the ocean ecosystem.

Both levels of government recognize the rights of First Nations groups to have a say in the protection process, which adds another dimension to MPA consultations.

Some of the legislative difficulties may be eased with the passing of a federal bill aimed at providing a framework for establishing MPAs. Presently before the senate, Bill C-10 aims to streamline the bureaucratic process and hand most of the responsibility for MPAs to Parks Canada, which has already begun work with the province on four MPA pilot projects such as the Race Rocks Ecological Reserve.

Seafood industry representatives are also concerned about the number of players involved in making decisions about MPAs, but for different reasons.

Christina Burridge, Executive Director of the B.C. Seafood Alliance, said the number of groups involved in MPA legislation make it "absolutely impossible to keep up with the amount of consultation involved."

The B.C. Seafood Alliance agrees that MPAs are, in general, a good idea.

But Burridge is concerned about the practical application of "no-take" zones and strongly opposes C-10. The alliance believes that Fisheries and Oceans Canada should be the only arm of government deciding on the issue.

It is difficult for any of the organizations involved to predict how long it will take the federal government to pass C-10, which has already been before parliament for more than three years.

Jessen hopes that the recent poll's evidence of public support will galvanize governments into action.

Bones pointed out that provincial and federal groups could establish MPAs even before the federal bill.

But for that to happen, "we have to get the endorsement of the new government, and there is some question as to how that would turn out," he said, considering how controversial the issue is in coastal communities dependent on fishery.

His department hasn't yet submitted any official strategy to the cabinet, outlining the liberal government's official position on MPAs.

In fact, Bones thinks potential offshore drilling or natural gas pipeline projects may speed up the MPA movement.

"I don't see the oil and gas situation as detrimental, I see it as supportive," he said. "It's going to stimulate interest in preserving these areas."

Selling used texts made easy on campus

by Lysa Terpstra

As the semester ends students are left with stacks of textbooks and little money.

But Dec. 6 marks the start of the buy-back period at the UVic Bookstore, which means students can exchange those books for some extra cash.

During the buy-back period, which starts today and runs into January, the bookstore pays 50 per cent of a book's current retail price.

The bookstore then sells the used book for 25 per cent more than what they paid the student, said Betsy Gray, a textbook consultant in the bookstore.

"Sometimes you can only get a few bucks back for [a] book at the bookstore," said Kristyn Stilling, a third-year English student at UVic.

But many students might not know that the bookstore splits buy-back sales with wholesale companies.

These companies only buy the used books from students at 10 to 20 per cent of the books current retail price, which could explain why students, like Stilling feel ripped-off when they go into sell their books.

According to UVic's 2001 calendar, a student spends an average of $800 on books during a regular school year.

But the bookstore will not buy back all textbooks. It buys back books based on what is required by faculty for the upcoming term.

However, in an upcoming term a professor might change the edition used, so new editions may pose a problem for students hoping to sell their old texts.

Unless the professor specifies to the bookstore older editions are acceptable "only the latest editions are on the shelves," said Gray.

Textbooks are usually replaced with new editions every three years and the bookstore does not usually buy back older editions.

With such a small percentage paid back for books and limited options for the re-sale of older texts, many students choose to consign their books at SUBtext, a used bookstore in the Student Union Building.

Students price their own books for consignment and SUBtext collects a 25 per cent commission if the book is sold.

Students can inquire about the status of their books during store hours, except for the months of September and January.

Pay-out cheques can be obtained every Friday, said staff member Juliet Rice. Many students also choose to buy their books at SUBtext instead of purchasing them new at the bookstore.

"Some students will check here first," said Rice. "If people can get them cheaper here, they'll do it."

The reserve room in UVic's McPherson Library is another option for students tracking down textbooks. Coursepacks, portions of textbooks and other texts can be photocopied within the library, or taken out for two hours. Some texts can be taken out for one or three days, said Christie Shaw, a McPherson Library staff member.

The short loan periods at the reserve room allows many students access to texts without shelling out hundreds of dollars, said Shaw.

Coffee needs a cross-Canada cab ride

by Heather Neale

Kevin Smith is calling all UVic consumers with a conscience. He wants to supply you with fair trade coffee straight from the farm but needs the help of some friendly traveller.

After spending time in Nicaragua on the El Pol Venir coffee plantation, Smith saw first hand the atrocious living conditions workers face, and he decided to help change them. He bought 250 pounds of beans directly from the farmers and now he needs the help of like-minded coffee drinkers, and drivers who will take them across the country.

"I knew that if Canadians were made aware of the plight of the small cooperative, and experienced the quality of the coffee that they would help in [this] venture," Smith said.

The plantation does not produce enough coffee at a time to interest large companies like Phillip Morris, General Foods, and Nestle.

"Eighteen thousand pounds of coffee to 'the big three' is laughable," Smith said.

However, without consumers to buy the product, the already poor living conditions for the plantation's workers deteriorate even further.

El Por Venir was originally started by a revolutionary party called the Sadinistas, who seized government control in Nicaragua in 1978, only to be thrown out by the CIA in 1980. They hoped to make plantations more egalitarian but have had little success.

Using almost every last cent in his bank account, Smith bought the coffee and had it shipped to his parents' place in Toronto. He said his parents have been good sports but are getting tired of storing the coffee. When his dad first saw the big bags, he said it smelled like the back of Juan Valdez' donkey, said Smith.

Smith, a UVic writing student, hopes to set up a table in the SUB next term offering free coffee and portions of freshly roasted beans at a fair price.

Smith is loyal to social change in other ways as well. During his stay in Guatemala he worked for a non-governmental organization that raised money for street children.

He also helped start a centre called *'Entremundos'* (Spanish for 'between worlds') to encourage local volunteering

Life in Nicaragua is harsh, and Smith had a two-hour walk from where he lived to the nearest town for resources. He also mentioned the lack of electricity and hygienic drinking water.

What stands out in Smith's mind about his time in Nicaragua is the lack of nutritious food. Most people live on rice and beans, sometimes accompanied by a scrap of bread.

"While I was there, I could feel the lethargy that accompanies a deficiency of vitamins," Smith said.

Now he challenges UVic students to do their part and buy what he claims is "damn fine coffee."

photo by Darren Stewart

Kevin Smith with his beans

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Authorized Reseller

Recycling trailer teaches UVic students a lesson

by Sarah Glen

UVic students need a lesson in recycling.

After discovering that contents of outdoor campus recycling bins have not been recycled since 1994, a group of Environmental Studies (ES) students put together a two-minute film trailer focused on teaching student movie-goers what can and can't go into the bins.

The trailer, "Some People Care" will run indefinitely before films shown at the Cinecenta.

"Recycling is pretty dysfunctional here," said Jennifer Mutch, coordinator with the UVic Sustainability Project (UVSP). "Even I'm not clear what is contamination or not."

Pop cans and other recyclables are not being recycled from the out-door campus recycling bins because garbage and compost are thrown into the bins as well, said Mutch.

The rotting mixture contaminates the entire bin and everything ends up at the landfill.

The UVSP, along with UVic Facilities Management, the ES students and their professor helped bring the one-time class project to Cinecenta.

"It's a collarboative effort [that] marks a difference in the way the university creates change," said Lynn Howse, sustainability coordinator with Uvic's Facility Management. "We can start working together here."

Howse chipped in the $1,000 the group needed to transfer their footage from video to 35 mm, the film width Cinecenta uses for the big screen.

None of the students directly involved in the trailer could be reached for comment.

Fiona Hamersley Chambers, the ES 300A professor who first prompted the students to create "practical" projects for their class, said the trailer is just one example of the way UVic students are using what they learn in class to transform their environment.

"In my experience students learn better and are more motivated if they can see the practical implications of their work," she said.

Hamersley Chambers created the project idea this year and hopes to develop a core course curriculum that is, like the trailer, action based.

"Now it's pretty piecemeal, but we could make real changes."

This is the first time Cinecenta has ever run this type of public service trailer before its films.

Any future trailer will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, said Lisa Sheppard, manager of Cincenta.

The idea that what students learn in the classroom can be applied in the community is a philosophy that is catching on around campus.

Another group of students, spurred by Hamersley Chambers "action-based project," started rigid plastic recycling around UVic.

The group organized a pilot plastics recycling project, found financing to rent the recyclable bin, wrote information leaflets for students and continues to collect the plastics around campus, even though the semester has ended.

All plastics collected are shipped to a company in Sidney that turns it into an equivalent to lumber.

"It creates a dillema as an instructor," said Hamersley Chambers. "With so much effort, how do I mark them?"

Along with these other environmentally focused projects, Hamersley Chambers hopes the trailer will remind UVic students to be aware of what they toss into the recycling bins around campus.

The trailer will debut at the Cinecenta's matinee on Dec. 7, but anyone who wants to view it before can email Howse, lhowse@fmgt.uvic.ca

University sustainability report coincides with review of Campus Plan

by Darren Stewart

Authors of a new report on UVic sustainablity and innovative planning hope their ideas will be considered in the review of The Campus Plan currently underway.

'A Path Less Taken' calls for sweeping change in the way the university develops and more inclusive process to chart it's development. The report, put out by the Polis Project, proposes a new approach to campus planning that strives to create a contained campus environment, respects green space, uses energy and water efficiently, and requires constant community and student involvement.

Co-author Emily MacNair said the paper goes beyond the question of land use.

"We look at how we're using the university's land and what the values are that underlie that," she said.

The chief guide for growth and planning on campus is The Campus Plan, which was originally drafted 40 years ago. The plan has been updated periodically as needed and is currently under its first comprehensive review by a recently struck Campus Development Committee.

MacNair said the Polis report is intended to spark movement towards a new campus planning process involving more input from students, surrounding communities and the variety of experts on campus.

"There is a lot of inertia for this," she said.

She added that it's inevitable the university will grow over the next few years, and it should develop a comprehensive plan to use land much more efficiently and look at densifying already developed areas. The university should also look at rebuilding and redesigning current buildings to accommodate more students and facilities, and create a community core feel.

"You should be able to live, work and play on campus without having to commute every day," said MacNair.

She feels that if UVic is careful in planning future development, it could become an environmental model for institutions elsewhere.

"There's a tremendous amount of potential because the campus is so beautiful," she said.

The completed report was sent to the university board of governors, Saanich and Oak Bay municipal councils, the UVic student's society and various academics and administrators on campus.

UVic's Eco-Research Chair Michael M'Gonigle spearheaded the project last March. He admits that response to the paper has been quiet but said the timing of its release is key.

"This is an idea whose time has come," he said. "Other universities have done this wrong. Here we have a phenomenal potential to do it right."

M'Gonigle said he's focusing on campus and community outreach with the project and is meeting with university administrators to discuss it this month.

"My god, the potential is huge," he said. "We have to seize this, the opportunity wont be coming around again."

Sarah Webb, a student representative on the Campus Development Committee reviewing the campus plan, said there's definitely some green shortfalls in the current plan

"There's a lot of room in the plan to include sustainablility and environmental initiatives," she said. "There are also a lot of ways it could be used to improve campus life in general."

She said the plan could incorporate more long-term commitments and take heed of some suggestions outlined in the "Path" paper.

UVic Sustainability Coordinator Lynn Howse said it's difficult to guess which ideas, if any, the campus plan could incorporate.

"There are lots of interesting and good ideas in the paper which will be reviewed," she said.

She said there's a lot of will in the university administration to bring the campus up to speed on sustainability issues. In some ways UVic is further ahead than other universities, said Howse. For example, other universities are jealous of our U-pass program.

"And the very fact that my position exists says a lot," Howse added.

UVic spokesperson Patti Pitts said that UVic Facilities Management will look at 'A Path Less Taken' and consider its proposals.

"Otherwise it will just be considered another submission to consider in the [Campus Plan} review process.".

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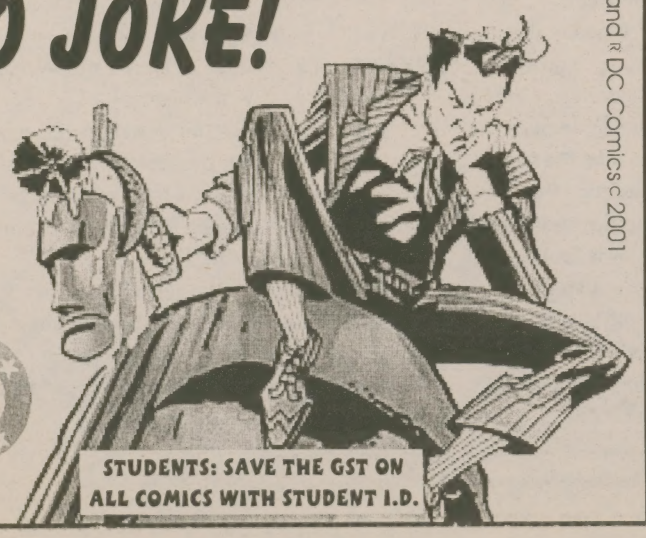

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NEWS IN BRIEF

UVic student helps Santa this Christmas

Santa Claus will get some help from Sarah Barrett's company this year.

Barrett, a fourth-year business student and single mom, has spent her fall co-op term organizing a fundraising event called "Christmas at Santa's Mansion" for her new business "Creative Edge Planning."

The event, which will be held on Dec. 9 at Goward House on 2495 Arbutus Road from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., aims to collect money for Santa's Anonymous, a non-profit organization that delivers Christmas foodstuffs and toys to Victoria's underprivileged.

It will feature live music as well as vendors of local arts and crafts and organic seasonal produce. Admission is $2 and children get in free.

Barrett said she geared the event toward children after being inspired by her five-year-old son, Micah.

"If I didn't have Micah I never would have thought of [events] for children," Barrett said.

She added the co-op provided her with subsidy funding and has been supportive of her ideas. She hopes the program will be expanded and more student initiative encouraged.

Barrett also had advice for other UVic students wanting to start their own businesses.

"Go with what you know," said Barrett. "Build on the skills you already have and don't go outside yourself."

The event planning business seems to have come naturally to her, she said. Barrett spent last summer coordinating the James Bay market and will soon be organizing a Bridal fair fundraiser for the Breast Cancer Society. She remains pragmatic about her busy life.

"You just do what you've got to do," said Barrett. "I've got a great support system and great friends."

by Joanna Wong

UVSS makes hard decisions in SUB

At two recent UVSS finance meetings difficult decisions had to be made.

Food Services, The Juice Bar and the IQ Bistro have all cut back their staff hours to save money.

Managers for those businesses explained several reasons for the changes.

Food Services Manager Brad Mielke said he banned overtime for his division's permanent staff to bring down wage costs, which ran $2,311 over budget in October.

Mielke also said there was some overstaffing in Bean There.

Juice Bar manager Neil Zigman said he cut back his staff's hours to five hours a week from 12 in order to close during slower business hours.

"Opening for the [Cinecenta] movie crowd had no justification," he said.

Money is also tight in other areas of the SUB.

The meetings and conferences assistant, Erika MacTavish, said her division would prefer to stay away from booking the Michele Pujol Room for smaller student groups, who generally won't bring in revenue.

"I'd like to use Vertigo as a student study space and have larger conferences use the Pujol room," MacTavish said.

To date Meetings and Conferences is about $21000 in the red this year.

In Felicitas prices on sleeves increased from $2 to $2.75 and all drink specials ended.

As for Vertigo, Interim SUB General Manager Marne Jensen recommended the night club remains closed until September 2003.

"In the meantime, if there are opportunities for conferences here, then we should use the room for that," she said.

by Kevin Groves

Poster display draws attention to social issues

Students in Vicki Nygaard's Sociology 202 class have combined photos, captions and statistics on a social justice issue of their choice to be displayed in the SUB upper lounge.

Some of the selected topics include racism, Canadian foreign policy, homophobia, heterosexism, violence against women, poverty, alcoholism, drug abuse and body image.

Nygaard said her goal was to create activism and personal transformation on campus.

"If people feel the issue, they're more likely to be active about the issue," Nygaard said. "It's likely to make more of an impact that will hopefully breed more dissent and activism."

The project was designed to be a public education project rather than an academic exercise, allowing students to research an issue they feel is important.

Nygaard said the class was about privilege.

"People who are marginalized don't have a voice," she said. "If you're privileged, you can use that privilege and bring out people's awareness of their own location."

Melissa Pelto, a student taking part in the project, chose media concentration in Canada because she felt the issue needed to be addressed.

"Today, three people own the majority of media [outlets] in Canada," Pelto said.

Pelto added this concentration determines story selectivity. Using women in Afghanistan as an example, she said this has been a serious issue for years, but is only now gaining attention in light of the war on terrorism.

Pelto's suggested solutions to media concentration include donating money to publicly owned media, such as the CBC, and talking about it with peers and writing letters to the editor. She also suggested contributing to alternative publishers and internet bulletin boards, as well as talking in groups.

Pelto also suggested writing to national newspapers, joining independent media, taking part in national protests of different media sources and helping to provide funding for CBC.

Taryn Carlton, another student taking part in the project, based her poster on violence towards sex trade workers.

To help her in her research, she interviewed a lawyer and former sex trade worker whom she got in touch with through the Prostitutes Empowerment Education Resource Society (PEERS).

"I just didn't realize how real [the issue] was in Victoria," said Carlton. "Sex trade workers are seen as not important."

The poster project will be on display in the upper lounge of the SUB from Dec. 6 to Jan. 7. Loose leaf paper will be available for questions and comments to the creators of the posters.

by Allison Malone

photo by Lisa Helps

Professor Vicki Nygaard and student Natalie Gordon hold up one of the poster projects from Sociology 202: Introduction to Social Problems.

New survey on student finances suggests government policy flawed

by Kevin Groves

Results of a new survey suggest national and provincial student loan programs make inaccurate assumptions about student finances.

Sponsored by the Canadian Millenium Scholarship Foundation, the survey followed the income and expenses of 1524 post-secondary students across Canada for one year.

The survey found 46 per cent of students under 22 receive no financial assistance from their parents, while about a third of those over 22 receive parental help.

Foundation spokesperson Sheamus Murphy said this finding contradicts a Canada Student Loan Program (CSLP) assumption that all students receive help from their parents before they are 22 years old.

He said the assumption can hurt students who need assistance but can't get it because they are under 22 and are supposedly receiving money from parents.

"So [the government] will reduce their assistance accordingly," he said. "Also, students over 22 can apply for aid without reporting parental income and end up with more money than they need."

Erin Stevenson of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) said her organization isn't surprised by the study findings.

"Now we have the numbers to back up what we've been saying for years," Stevenson said. "The information that came out of this supported our policy more than we realized."

The alliance has argued for years that the government policy is flawed because many students do not receive financial help from their parents.

Stevenson said the findings will be useful at a lobby conference with the federal government that CASA has planned for this March.

"[It] will help us reevaluate our policy more effectively for when we meet the government and representatives from the CSLP," Stevenson said.

Ian Boyko, National Chair of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), also plans to use the information.

"It's just a stronger argument for a national system of grants," Boyko said. "These numbers will help us lobby to have the assumptions around the CSLP removed."

Whether the survey results will influence government policy though is still unclear. A spokesperson within Human Resources Development Canada, the federal government institution that processes CSLP forms, said the results have not yet influenced Ottawa's policy.

"I can't say what we'll do with [the results]," said Carol Anne Deneka. "It's something we can add to the information we have."

BC Advanced Education Minister Shirley Bond would not comment on how the survey's results would influence her ministry's core review process.

"There are many factors and much information to be considered," Bond said.

The survey also looked at student credit card use.

The results showed 65 per cent of students surveyed have at least one card, while 27 per cent have two or more cards.

A relationship between students' number of credit cards and their level of debt was also discovered.

While average student debt was $900 with one card, students with three of more cards averaged $2,500 in the hole.

"This doesn't necessarily mean that it is the case for all," Murphy said. "But it shows that you could be getting support and still have credit card debt."

The survey is the first of its kind in Canada in 30 years and is part of a larger research program that will evaluate financial assistance programs across the country.

> The information that came out of this supported our policy more than we realized.
> *Erin Stevenson, Canadian Alliance of Student Associations*

Police jail housing advocates in scuffle at City Hall

by Ben Isitt

Dozens of concerned Victoria citizens converged on City Hall Dec. 4 to support the demand of street youth for adequate housing. Four of them ended up in jail.

The rally was called in support of 40 people who set up camp in the covered area beneath Council Chambers to raise the issue of Victoria's housing shortage. The group had been living in the Spiral Island make-shift shelter on Discovery Street until police evicted them.

"The arrest of those who speak out on behalf of the marginalized of this society is unacceptable," said Will Alvarez, Lansdowne campus executive with the Camosun College Student Society.

Local activist Shane Calder echoed this sentiment.

"This is a very typical case when it comes to poverty and homelessness," Calder said. "People try to defend what little they have, and they get beaten for it."

> The only option they offer us to get out of poverty is to put a gun in our hands and send us overseas to destroy other people's homes.
>
> *Sissy, a street youth*

Alvarez and Calder were among those who demonstrated at the street camp after word spread that police would remove the campers.

Victoria mayor Alan Lowe also visited the square to speak with some of the occupants, television media in tow, but he retreated when the crowd took issue with some of his comments.

A "circle council meeting" was called and over 50 people linked hands in a wide circle in the Square to discuss the next step.

During the meeting Steve Mackenzie, a teaching assistant with UVic's department of anthropology and a member of the local Anti-Poverty Coalition, told the group that police were arresting local activist Andre Bueno at the corner of Pandora and Douglas.

A scuffle ensued between street camper Chris Keets and a Victoria Police officer. Mackenzie verbally confronted the officers over what he perceived to be their excessive use of force, and the officer grabbed Mackenzie by the throat and forced him onto the hood of a police cruiser.

photo by Sarah Rhude

Four Victoria activists were arrested Dec. 4 while showing soildarity for street youth.

Mackenzie flayed his arms in self-defense, and a second officer joined in, forcing Mackenzie to the pavement before putting the UVic employee in a police van.

"He was spitting blood," witness Jeff Larochelle later said.

After the confrontation on Douglas Street a dozen protesters walked to Victoria Police headquarters on Caledonia Avenue to offer support for the three arrestees.

Local activist Larry Wartel was later arrested while arguing with a police officer in the lobby of police HQ.

According to Insp. Bill Naughton, Wartel and Keets were arrested for obstruction of a police officer, Bueno was arrested for criminal harassment, and Mackenzie was arrested for obstruction of a police officer and assault on a police officer. He expected all four would be released later that afternoon.

"These activists are among the most peaceful in the Victoria community," Larochelle said. He said he was dismayed over their arrests and questioned police conduct but he blames the police institution rather than the officers themselves for the violence against protesters.

"Capitalism can no longer stand the idea of people making choices about their everyday lives, especially economic choices," he said, adding that people are denied their inalienable rights "to those things that each person needs to stay alive."

Sissy, a street youth who was evicted from Spiral Island and camped out in Centennial Square, put the local events within a global context.

"When we ask them for homes, they give us jails. When we ask them for shelter, they give us bars. The only option they offer us to get out of poverty is to put a gun in our hands and send us overseas to destroy other people's homes."

It's the most stressful time of the year

by Heather McCloy

Preparation for exams, studying and the holidays all add up to the stress most students struggle with at this time of year. As the semester closes, the level of stress heightens as students battle with the pressure and anxiety to wind down and to get all of their work done successfully.

Many students also have to squeeze in time for jobs and other commitments.

"Exams shouldn't be worth 60 per cent because I fail them," said Caroline Longtin, a second-year student. "That's why it's so stressful."

Stress is a reaction that people experience physiologically and cognitively according to Sylvain Boies, counseling psychologist with the UVic's Counseling Services. In other words, it is how people function toward their perception of a situation.

Of all the students who visit UVic's counseling centre throughout the year, 48 per cent identify stress as a major concern.

The bulk of this percentage visit the counseling centre in the last two or three weeks of every semester as students come in to talk about their anxiety over finals, term papers and time management.

Symptoms of stress may cause people to be more susceptible to illness, an increased heart rate, higher blood pressure, lower immune system and stomach and muscle tension. This leads to mental and physical exhaustion.

"It's a cycle," said Jennifer Power, peer helper and a fourth-year biology student. "If you get sick, then you can't study. You do poorly in your classes and then you become even more stressed."

Other symptoms include withdrawal from people and mild depression. People may also become hostile, irritable, short tempered and sensitive to criticism. Counseling services offers anxiety drop-in sessions where counselors teach students how to breathe and to focus on their thoughts.

"There is a belief that everything should be done now," said Boies. "We remind them that it's impossible."

The counselors teach students how to deal with one task at a time so they will ultimately achieve success.

They also offer depression group sessions every semester for those students whose stress is more extreme. The peer helpers offer drop-in relaxation sessions, which focus on breathing and visualization. Both centers recommend the exam-preparation course led by counseling services in which learning-skills specialists talk about ways to handle stress and how to study.

Most students find one-on-one sessions to be the best way to let out their frustrations.

"Many people come in [to the peer helping center] feeling overwhelmed," said Power. "But they leave with a sense that things are going to be OK. They have a concrete sense of what to do next."

Exercise, healthy eating and social support are crucial to ease tension and stress. Students should also take some time out to relax and reward themselves for their hard work.

And students are not only the ones who get stressed.

"Whether it is prepping for class or writing tests and exams, there is always a deadline," said Tim Pelton, a UVic computer science teacher.

Stress is not always a negative force.

"Stress is everywhere. Good and bad," said Donna Denman, nurse from UVic Health Services.

Stress makes people competitive, which makes them strive to do their best. It is a needed function and helps people accomplish their goals, said Denman.

Boies said people need to recognize when their stress level has become overwhelming and need to know how to deal with it effectively.

"Stress only means that you're alive and moving," he said.

For more information on counseling sessions, contact the UVic peer helping centre at 721-8343 or counseling services at 721-8341.

CBC scolded for 'anti-American' town hall

by Michael Malleson

TORONTO (CUP) CBC's ombudsman has criticized CBC News for broadcasting a town hall program he says expressed a one-sided, anti-American view of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

David Bazay ruled that the audience at the Sept. 19 taping of a National Town Hall consisted almost entirely of university students and public employees, and therefore did not represent a fair cross-section of Canadians or Torontonians as the term "national town hall" might imply.

The ombudsman's review began after viewers, many American, criticized the program for presenting a view heavily biased towards a leftist and anti-American outlook.

Although Bazay said the program did not technically violate the corporation's journalism policy, he was critical of the CBC and made several recommendations for change.

"How could CBC-TV News describe a program built around comments and questions of a studio audience in downtown Toronto as 'national?'" said Bazay.

"There appeared to be little representation from the private sector, and this in a city that's at the centre of Canada's important economic relationship with the United States," Bazay added.

Of the 23 members of the audience who made a statement, he counted 11 who either attacked the notion of using force or blamed American foreign policy for the attacks.

Applause greeted all of the 11 statements, but the audience was silent when one audience member said "the fact is, in a thousand ways, we are more like the Americans than I think any other country is."

Bazay encouraged the producers to send invitations to private-sector employees as well as university students and public employees.

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EDITORIAL

Reflections on a remembered touchstone

So. It has been 12 years. Twelve years since that vengeful man, who shall remain nameless because he could now be any man, or any woman, walked into an engineering classroom, separated the men from the women, held women at gun point, shot them mercilessly and then turned the weapon on himself.

Why recount these incidents? We all know the story, don't we? L'École Polytechinque, Dec. 6, Montreal, massacre. What is the slogan fixed to another day of remembrance less than a month earlier? Lest we forget.

But we do.

As time moves on violent incidents are layered upon each other: Montreal Massacre, Gulf War, innumerable beatings of women on Superbowl night (it is a fact that violence against women increases on this night), rape camps in Bosnia, slaying of Kristen French and Lesley Mahaffey by Paul Bernardo and Karlo Holmolka, beating-to-death of Reena Virk, Columbine, Colorado and Taber, Alberta high school shootings, beating-to-death of Matthew Shepard in Wyoming and Aaron Webster in Stanley Park, the Taliban's treatment of women, the US' treatment of the Taliban.

As we move further from these events we leave them behind until they are no more than pinnacle moments in history. They become touchstones, points of reference, examples of what "that bad man did to that poor woman" or "what that rich country did to that poor country." We separate ourselves from these events (the mainstream media assists us in doing so), we tell ourselves we are not implicated – those of us in the West who have the privilege to do so create seemingly safe worlds for ourselves so that we do not have to live in fear.

But we do, don't we? Live in fear that is. We women, we queers, we trannies, we First Nations, we people of colour, we with visible and invisible disabilities, we who are poor. We live in fear of the implications of being different from the white, male, heterosexual, upper class, able-bodied mythical majority. Fear of poverty, of discrimination, harassment, job-loss.

Fear of violence.

The Montreal Massacre, as most of us know it, has become a touchstone for violence against women. We have images in our heads. We imagine what it must have been like to be in that classroom. We picture the men slinking silently away and we condemn them silently for not speaking out. We hear the first gun shot, then scramble under a desk to avoid receiving a bullet to our own imaginary stomach, arm, heart. As we imagine this we stand in a circle of women and men. We hold our candles. We wear our rose buttons or our white ribbons. We pause on Dec. 6 even though it is a busy time of year for all of us.

We are silent for a moment. We remember.

And the remembering we do is important. Yes, of course. And let's not only remember those 14 women killed in Montreal but all women who experience violence. Our friends who are in violent relationships, women we only know through stories on the six o'clock news, women in Afghanistan, women in developing countries, Indigenous women, women of colour, sex-workers. Let us remember all women.

And as we remember let us not forget. Let us not forget that it is not only men who do violence and women who experience violence. No. It is clear, just from glancing back briefly over the past 10 years that as much as we live in a world filled with beauty, inspiration and human kindness we also live in a world filled with violence. We live under a state that condones and perpetrates violence. We live in capitalist economy that uses violence to sell cars, beer, clothing etc. We live in a media-culture that saturates us with violent images. And no, you're right, we cannot escape the world in which we live.

So as we remember let's remember to remember tomorrow and the next day and the next day so our remembering of the 14 women killed on Dec. 6, of the women killed every day, of the people killed every day, eventually moves us from simple reflection to radical action.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at 12:30 p.m. in SUB b110a. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

Don't like what you read? Write, write, write, gimme gimme gimme: martlet@uvic.ca

LETTERS

Keep looking at what's left

I'm not sure if *the Martlet*, the UVSS or the CFS are as good at influencing public opinion as the Fraser Institute is. As for the university itself, well, there's still a tuition freeze, and I think several capital projects have just been cancelled, so universities don't seem to have too much sway either with the government. So, if you want to find a real left-wing think-tank, or lobby group, try the Council of Canadians, or the Canadian Auto Workers. How about the CD Howe Institute? Is that "left" enough?

Nevin "I still read the Martlet" Thompson

Jusquan's important insight

Dear *Martlet*, the recent Indigenous Perspective written by Jusquan was probably the most succinct piece written about living with modern day colonialism that I have read in some time. We all seem to have been lulled into this sense that there is nothing we can do about how and what we learn, as indigenous and non indigenous people, here in the stolen land of Kanada. It is becoming painfully obvious that we have been sold a bill of mind goods that is killing our sense of what is just and right while living in this corrupt corporate colonialist world. Where are the minds that will lead us out of this mess? Well we certainly won't find them being educated at the new corporate run Universities like UVic. I want to say to Jusquan that you should be proud of yourself – not for coming to study within the (symbolic and physical) walls of our so called 'higher education system,' but for realizing that what you can learn from your ancestors. It is in more ways than one, the most important lesson you will pass on to your children.

David Miller

Difference between debt and deficit

In Letters to the Editor, Nov. 29, 2001, Dallas Henault is wrong in saying the NDP left a deficit behind for the BC Liberals. On the contrary, the budget stood $1.5 billion in the black when Mr. Campbell came to power. The figures were audited independently.

The letter similarly confuses 'debt' and 'deficit' which are not the same thing. Debt, simply put, is all the bills plus the cost of paying them. Deficit is the negative difference between income and debt.

Phil Atkinson

Activists' arrogance

Regarding your article "Global event aims to educate shoppers," Nov. 29, 2001 I wish to commend the activists for enforcing their beliefs on the public, especially the 7-Eleven cashier who "broke down after being repeatedly questioned about the sexist messages in some prominently featured magazines." I also wish to compliment the activists for their ability to identify this cashier as the sole buyer responsible for stocking all of 7-Eleven's 21,000 stores with these sexist magazines.

It is clear that these activists have little, if any, understanding of the reality of having to work a shit job just to make ends meet. Neither do they seem aware that some do not have the luxury of being able to pick and choose their ethics from a school calendar. I can only hope, once these activists have left our University with their Bachelors of Arrogance, that the only jobs they can land are in the retail or food-service industries, where they can be harassed by the same self-righteous jerks that they once were.

R. Scott Hall

Martlet article misrepresents Vikes

I am writing this letter in reply to the article "Vikes Dispel Myriad of Rugby Myths" which was run in last week's edition of *the Martlet*.

I must say that I was rather disappointed when I read the article. Like many of the rugby players here at UVic, I am constantly fighting the stereotype of being a beer-swilling, machismo, womanizing meathead. So when I read the headline of this article, I was excited that maybe our story would be told. However, the article did nothing to quell such rumours and, in fact, did more to encourage the negative stereotypes about rugby players.

I was astounded at the incredible misinformation that was printed in your newspaper. It seems to me that the source of your misinformation is the individual interviewed, one Ryan Hogg, who does not play for the Vikes, the Norsemen or the Jutes.

For starters, most of the Vikes are practising three or four times a week, rain or shine, come hell or high water; with games every weekend. In addition to the team practices, most players are in the gym three to five times a week pumping iron or working on cardio.

Many of the rugby players are also hard-working students and are also dedicated to the university and the community. Last year, the Vikes rugby team had one of the highest collective GPAs of all the varsity sports teams. As well, many of the members are involved in volunteering in the community through coaching and other volunteer services.

If *the Martlet* had actually done some honest research into the UVic rugby club, you may have discovered that we are having our best season ever. The Vikes are right at the top of the B.C. Premier League, and both the Norsemen and the Jutes are undefeated. Does *the Martlet* ever take notice of this? No. Instead you chose to run an article based on the words of some crank who doesn't even play for UVic. However, this is not surprising considering the amount of support we have received from *the Martlet* so far this year, basically nothing. Maybe *the Martlet* should spend a little more time covering and supporting the successes of Vikes rugby. And when it comes to "dispelling the myriad of myths" about rugby players, we can do that on our own. Because you people are obviously of no help.

Phil Webb

Canadian Forces clarificatons

This letter is in regard to the very poorly written article on the Canadian Forces being banned from the SUB. I would just like to state some points that myself and other C.F. members on campus are very offended by.

A) First and foremost the comment that the C.F. does nothing positive is totally incorrect

B) The C.F. have not been involved in any large scale military operations outside of peace keeping since the second world war (Korea was a UN peace keeping operation)

C) More Canadian soldiers have died on operational deployment since the end of the Korean conflict than have killed anyone

D) If you wish to know what the you that is positive here's a short list:

- The ice storm in '98
- The Manitoba floods
- Every summer members of the C.F. drive fire fighters to brush fires

E) The improper naming of military kit proves a lack of research done by the writer of this article

- The jeep is in fact called an iltis. Jeeps have not been used by the C.F since the seventies
- The bazooka is in fact an m72 S.R.A.A.W.L. (short range anti amour weapon light) and was clearly marked dummy

F) And finally, in what democratic society are the complaints of on person grounds for a dission?

Sincerely,

Tpr.D.Berg

Armoured crewman RCAC

[2000/2001]
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INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES

Sweet sixteen an early holiday gift

by Troy Sebastian, Native Student Union Firekeeper

Last week the Liberal government released its much anticipated legislative committee report on the treaty referendum. To no one's surprise, the committee recommended that the province hold a one-time referendum on treaty principles. These principles are to guide the government in its tripartite negotiations with the federal government and First Nations negotiators.

However, the committee did offer a small surprise in that the referendum question will actually be 16 separate questions regarding the principles of modern-day treaties. Think of it as an early present for the holidays. What you lose in increased tuition, auto insurance rates and minimum wage cuts, you will more than make up for in aboriginal referendum questions. All hail the populist revolution!

Although Campbell and company have taken a lot of flack for the referendum, the questions that will be asked are seemingly innocuous, tame, and pensive. Would anyone publicly state that they are not in favour of a treaty process that isn't "as transparent as possible" or "responsive to the input of local community and economic interests" as the first two questions ask? Granted, there might be the odd lefty who would mutter something about the perils of economic interests, but this is pretty tame stuff.

Where is the drama? Where is the smoking gun? Well, it just isn't there. As much as I was looking forward, in a cynical and jaded way, to questions preying on stereotypical ideas such as "Are Indians just lazy welfare drunks?" the Liberals have stayed clear of the overtly confrontational.

Instead, the questions tend to appeal to a broad range of issues with a market-economy bent. They are so broad that a majority of British Columbians would be remise not to endorse them. For instance, I am not sure how many environmentalists would be against the "maintain parks and protected areas" question. Nor do I believe that the average British Columbian is against negotiating treaties that "ensure economic viability" and are predicated upon "affordability."

To add to the mix, the Liberals have a good understanding of the electorate and have wide public support, as the provincial election and recent public opinion surveys demonstrate.

So, does the referendum matter at all?

Well, yes, it matters in three very important areas.

First, it sets a powerful precedent for the provincial government to use a plebiscite to determine its agenda with First Nations. In the past the government would simply deal with our people by taking without permission, giving without consideration of want, and legislate without a moment's afterthought of how it would affect our lives, our culture and our communities.

Eventually, liberal notions of rights and entitlement hampered the government's willingness to act in such arbitrary and systemically racist ways. This referendum will sidestep that difficulty by relying on the same liberal-minded notions of private property and equality against our people. Oh the irony!

Second, the aura of democracy is being used to subvert our cultural rights. Whether or not it is desirable, the referendum is, more or less, democratic. It is very difficult to label a process that allows every voter not just one vote, but sixteen votes in determining the outcome as undemocratic. Yet, it is culturally damaging as it continues the further assimilation of many aboriginal cultures into the predominant Protestant, Anglo-Saxon, heterosexual (yadda yadda yadda, you get my point) culture. That is why democracy, or the assertion of individual rights, cannot be used as a determining factor when it comes to our rights. While we struggle with squaring the circle, we must opt for negotiation, not assimilation.

Finally, and most dangerous of all, the referendum will reduce the treaty process to such a scale that would make it difficult for those bands who are currently at the table, as it currently stands, to stay there. Once negotiation is no longer viable the only options left are litigation and confrontation, with the emphasis on the latter increasingly more likely.

So where does that leave us?

Well, how about a province-wide potlatch instead? Aside from the cultural insensitivity of such an endeavor, which hasn't stopped the government in the past, it would be a process where those with the most give to those with the least regardless of race, creed, gender, sexuality, or other means of differentiating ourselves. If the Campbell government really wants to engage aboriginal people and address questions of equality, why not opt for the potlatch?

It'd be better than a tax-cut in three ways. It would come with fry-bread, make Indians happy, and actually be voted upon by British Columbians. And to think, it would be just in time for the holidays!

To recap – referendum equals racist, assimilationist ultimatum. Potlatch equals communal fusion in the spirit of giving. Talk about a no-brainer. Campbell should get this one in no time!

STUDENT VOICE

Call for holiday action on impending freeze thaw

by Jaime Matten

Break time is almost here and everyone's thoughts are on sleeping-in and relaxing (hopefully some fun presents and holiday cheer too). As for the Students' Society, our wish list is pretty basic...have the government keep the tuition fee freeze and make a long-term strategy for further reducing fees. Sound cheesy? A little, but collective wishes always have more potency.

As for what the Students' Society has been doing that is a little more tangible than wishing. Well, the Student Soup Kitchen was a success. By 2 p.m. on Nov. 27 hundreds of students' bellies were warm and full with the neon-orange glow of good ol' KD. The purpose, you ask, for such extravagance? Well, we felt it was necessary to highlight the connection between student poverty (i.e. the Kraft Dinner diet) and how beneficial the tuition fee freeze is for students. Just imagine, if we are eating this crap even with the second lowest tuition in the country, what on earth will we be digesting when our tuition doubles next year.

Let me tell you, the folks in power are long past their KD days and seem to have forgotten what student life is really about. So, the Feb. 6 Day of Action is our time to let the government know that education is a right and to price it out of reach for thousands of students is not only unfair, but will jeopardise the future of this province. Everyone knows that in the new knowledge-based economy, economic prosperity is closely linked to an educated citizenry. Come on Mr. Campbell, how is B.C. going to pull itself out of this slump if the youth of this province can't get an education!

Over the break, think about what your education means to you and ask yourself 'how much more can I afford to pay?'

By the way, in January there will be a forum on that exact question, so keep your eyes peeled for the details and come out and get your questions answered.

Look for the debt walls that are up around campus. Sign your name and what your debt is, or how many hours per week you have to work to afford your classes.

Finally, get involved in the campaign to save the freeze and restore adequate provincial funding to the institutions themselves. February 6 is just around the corner. This is our chance to keep our education system accessible to all, not just those who will be able to afford it.

GET INVOLVED - sign the petition, wear a button and come by the Resource Centre in the SUB for more information. And above all else, mark Feb. 6 on your calendar and be ready for some fun.

Jaime Matten is Chair of the University of Victoria Students' Society and local representative for the Canadian Federation of Students.

BITCHY HOMO

Laid-back Kootenay paradise may not offer refuge for all

by Cara Blake

Nelson, the West Kootenays, B.C. What do you think when you hear about this place? That it's near Whitewater, the famous ski-hill? Treeplanter's paradise? A valley amid a bunch of mountains, etc.? Well, there is one unofficial claim to this area: it has one of the larger groupings of gays, lesbians and "other" than other regions in B.C. (possibly). Life in Nelson is very laid-back. People here are more tolerant with those of different sexual and/or gender orientation.

Even though I'm straight, I have had the excellent fortune of meeting people who lead a different way of life. My parents never said, "If you're not heterosexual, you'll go to Hell." (Although some relatives would say that). My first exposure was in elementary school. I was surprised to learn that Hans, the computer teacher, had a partner named Jesse. That surprise didn't last as I easily assimilated the information and went on my way. Then there was my some of my co-workers and boss at the public library in Nelson. They're lesbians. No big deal. They're incredible individuals who don't advertise the fact that they're lesbians, but if people know they don't shudder and shout, "Freaks!"

A male friend of mine I came across in downtown Nelson stopped to chat. "Have any new girlfriends?" I asked. "Uh, no. You see, I've come out of the closet," he answered. "Oh! Well, congratulations," I said. See? No problem. But I think some other people around us looked at my male friend strangely for a moment.

Nelsonites may be tolerant of differences, but not every Nelsonite is tolerant of gay people (note: I'm using "gay" as a general term as I've seen it used like this elsewhere). When gays wanted to proudly display their life choice by putting up a Gay Pride Day banner up over Mainstreet to advertise the upcoming parade, religious and other types of groups clamored for it to never be put up. It became a big debate. One minister said that it should be allowed to be put up for the sake of respecting differences, and religious groups exclaimed in shock and horror at this travesty of opinion. Well, it's not a perfect world.

I'm just writing this because I want to tell the gay people out there and in Victoria that Nelson could be a great place to live with your partner, but don't expect it to be a bed of roses either. I just hope that Nelson will remain the "refuge", if you will, for gay people so they don't have to continually justify their life choice.

B.C.'S OFF-SHORE OIL DRILLING

Employment, enviromental disaster or an illusive dream

by Tim Shuff

From his desk in Prince Rupert on B.C.'s north coast, David McGuigan sees his city at the heart of an oil boom. There are new refineries, natural gas plants, chemical factories and a petroleum storage and shipping terminal where tankers ply the waters of North America's deepest port. Economic troubles are over because, like Newfoundland which is now making money off Hibernia, the local economy finally has something to rely on other than logs and fish.

But McGuigan is looking 10 years into the future and so far his vision is only a dream.

He heads the North Coast Oil and Gas Task Force, a group of Prince Rupert business people who have been pushing the provincial government since 1997 to reconsider its moratorium on offshore oil and gas.

"The population is down 20 per cent, fishing industry has been cut by 50 per cent," he said. "I'd like to see oil and gas development. I'd like to see people on the north coast employed."

Today, with fishing in decline and seasonal at the best of times and the pulp mill, which was the city's largest employer, shut down, the economic situation on the north coast looks as bleak as Prince Rupert's rainy skies. And McGuigan isn't the only one dreaming of oil.

Prince Rupert's mayor, Don Scott, is ready to take some risks to revitalize the economy.

"Everybody's interested in prosperity for their family and prosperity for the future," he said. "When you've got an opportunity staring you in the face, you should seize it. Why would you not? A boat is safe in the harbour but that's not what it was built for. There's a huge potential for revenue, job creation and economic development."

Optimism is in the air, but oil won't be flowing anytime soon. First there has to be consensus on the coast. People like McGuigan and Scott have to find common ground with environmentalists, commercial fishers and First Nations – those who are the least likely to benefit from offshore oil but would be the first to pay the price if oil spilled on the coast.

If there's one thing that both sides can agree on now, besides the need to keep talking, it's the need for strong local control over any resource development. Inviting big oil into B.C.'s front yard is a roll of the dice, and before opening the doors to global corporations like Chevron, which owns most of the coast's oil and gas leases, people on the coast have to make sure that the local economy will benefit.

But if locals can wrest control over their resources away from industry, they may already have found the answer to their problems.

The coast of B.C. has been off-limits to oil companies for most of the past 50 years. The provincial and federal governments each have a moratorium that prevents exploration and development.

In 1984 the oil companies, local stakeholders and both governments came together and talked seriously about offshore oil and gas. Talks went on for two years and negotiations started on a 'Pacific Accord' – a regulatory framework for oil development. But when the 1989 Exxon Valdez tanker spilled 40 million litres of crude oil into Prince William Sound, Alaska, governments closed the book on oil exploration and left the moratoria in place.

Maybe someday, it was thought, better technology would make offshore oil environmentally safe for B.C.

Oil proponents believe that day has arrived. When the Liberal government came into power this year, they promised to "explore the enormous opportunities of offshore oil and gas," and gave people like McGuigan cause for hope.

But this optimism may be unfounded.

Nobody knows if there really is oil offshore of B.C. The area in question is the Queen Charlotte Basin, north of Vancouver Island, between the Queen Charlotte Islands and the mainland. This area might contain 2.5 billion barrels of recoverable oil – the equivalent of four Hibernias – in addition to enormous amounts of natural gas. Or it might not. Until the drill strikes, oil is nothing but a dream.

And even if exploration went ahead and oil was found, there's no guarantee that it would bring riches to the north coast. The last report prepared for the B.C. government concluded that "major benefits from offshore development tend to flow out of the province."

North coast locals want guaranteed benefits before they agree to oil development. But the rules of international business might make this impossible. Locals will have to match the skills of non-resident labourers and local businesses will have to undercut foreign competitors for any contracts from oil.

On the east coast, oil contributes hundreds of millions of dollars to provincial economies, but it's been hard to keep jobs local. Hibernia now employs only 700 people. Even the industry admits that offshore oil is not a big employer after the initial construction phase.

According to Dale Marshall, resource policy analyst with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, the platforms themselves would not be built in B.C. but rather China or Korea.

"They're going to build it somewhere else and bring it into B.C."

Marshall said that in addition to making it impossible to reinstate the moratoria on offshore development once they are lifted, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) may make it more difficult to ensure that locals benefit.

David Luff, an oil industry spokesperson with the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, said the first concern of the big oil companies is their return on investment. B.C. would be competing for the attention of global corporations that have a world of options.

"The companies who have the capability to develop in offshore B.C. will be evaluating those basins relative to all the other basins around the world within which they operate," said Luff.

The western province might have to bargain hard if it wants to develop offshore oil at all. Because there are so many unknowns, everything possible has to be done beforehand to make sure that risks will be minimized and local people benefit if oil exploration goes ahead. If the moratorium is lifted without a careful consultation process, said Marshall, "you've taken your last card and given it to the oil and gas companies."

Oil companies don't claim to be in any rush to take that card.

Lynn Lehr, Chevron spokesperson, said that the company is waiting until B.C. settles First Nations land claims and develops a Pacific Accord. She estimates at least five to 10 years before oil exploration can begin.

"We own the rights, they're not going anywhere. We don't want to come into an area that has unresolved issues," Lehr said. "That's a no-win situation for everybody."

While the oil companies take a wait-and-see approach to B.C. offshore, environmentalists hope to keep them waiting forever. For them, the issue extends far beyond the north coast. They say part of Canada's commitment to preventing global warming should be to stop producing more oil.

"Somebody somewhere has to take global warming seriously and curtail the use of fossil fuels," said Paul George of the Western Canada Wilderness Committee. "We have to start developing wind, tidal and renewable energy sources."

Oonagh O'Connor of the Living Oceans Society, based on Malcolm Island near the proposed oil development, said B.C. should be looking at alternatives anyway, because it will take up to 20 years to see any benefit from oil and gas.

"We need to be looking at solutions that can be worked on right now that are based on sustainable industries," she said.

O'Connor is also worried about the local environment, starting at the first stage of exploration.

"Our concerns begin with the impact seismic testing has on fisheries, the impact it has on marine life and the impact it has on marine mammals," O'Connor said.

Seismic testing uses shock waves to survey the geology of the sea floor, determining the best places to drill for oil. These waves may disturb fish and whales.

With drilling comes some inevitable oil spillage. Marine life will be harmed if it's exposed to too much oil, but the exact risks are unknown. Walter Cretney, a scientist with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, says the environment can recover from a big oil spill; it's just a matter of how long we're willing to wait.

"In the grand scheme of things these are somewhat short events," he said. "Ultimately these things will self-correct, but one has to decide what the risks are and whether its acceptable to wait 10 or 15 years. Somewhere along the line someone has to make a value judgment."

An oil spill that wiped out marine life for a decade would be a disaster for commercial harvesters.

Joy Thorkelson, northern representative of the Union of Fishermen and Allied Workers, spoke for salmon fishers in Prince Rupert. She said that commercial fishers have very little to gain and everything to lose from oil development.

"Our union's stand is that the moratorium

graphic provided

should not be lifted," she said. "There are always spills. Fish and oil just don't mix."

Thorkelson says that if past history is any indication, lots of tax dollars will be spent on offshore oil. The Canadian government spent $3.6 billion on Hibernia. Thorkelson believes that on the west coast, government money would be better spent on alternatives. Buying a crane for the port in Prince Rupert would allow it to take container ships, Thorkelson said. The port is on the shortest route between the American Midwest and Asia. If beef shipments came through Prince Rupert, they could afford to operate a cold storage facility all year. Instead of being shipped out by September, some fish could be kept around for local processing year-round.

Prefabricated post-and-beam home building is another value-added industry that could be started with a bit of capital and local control. Big companies won't sell small numbers of logs to locals at a reasonable price, Thorkelson said.

"Houses are imported from back east because our people don't have access to the lumber. People here want community forests," she said.

Commercial fishing in B.C. only brings in 200 million dollars a year. Offshore oil and gas could be worth ten times that, making it the second largest contributor to the B.C. economy after tourism. There would be more government money to fund northern initiatives even if local jobs weren't created directly.

But Thorkelson doesn't think it's worth the risk. She's worried that the government has already decided it to develop oil.

"Because of their political policies they're going to put our coasts at risk," Thorkelson said.

People on the coast say the two-year public review process back in the 1980s was a good one. This time, however, the provincial government has opted for a fast-track review that will allow it to make a decision about offshore oil by Jan. 31.

After receiving a report on the issue from a private consulting firm in October, the minister of energy and mines, Richard Neufeld, sent five northern MLAs out to gather public input from coastal communities. He also charged a three-person scientific panel with the task of advising government. He gave both groups a deadline of Jan. 15.

The scientific panel is chaired by the former president of UVic, David Strong, who is a professor in the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences. Strong said the panel will tell the government whether there is enough information to make a decision.

"We really don't have anything together yet," he said. "We expect it to come together in early January. We're trying hard to really hustle. We're not really doing science. We're just having a look at what's available, what's understood, what's known. Even if they did lift the moratorium, the real understanding of the B.C. offshore would have to come afterwards with lots of site specific research."

On Jan. 31 the provincial government may shelve offshore oil and gas for another decade. The alternative will be more research, more consultation.

The importance of more consultation is most evident in First Nations communities. Carole Perrault, general manager of the Musgamagw Tsawataineuk Tribal Council in Alert Bay, is just beginning to think about the implications of oil.

"We've got no information at all about impacts on us," she said, "and that's kind of scary."

When the five MLAs arrived in Bella Bella on Nov. 29 to speak with leaders of the Heiltsuk Nation about offshore oil and gas, Philip Hogan told them the Heiltsuk aren't interested.

"This is the first time we've talked to them," said Hogan. "They've never come here before. We're not in favour of this but if they are intending to pursue this they need to come here and talk to us on a more meaningful basis. Two hours in the hall for something that's going to effect our very existence; that's not adequate. I think that they recognize that."

Hogan said First Nations aren't in a rush to jump on the oil bandwagon, even though they have economic problems of their own. When money is scarce, he said, the Heiltsuk look to the ocean for food, not oil. Plus they just invested millions of dollars into a new fish plant, so they aren't going to support any development that might harm fish.

"Given the stakes we're quite concerned," he said. "We're not in favour of lifting the moratorium at this time. There really isn't a need for it. There's plenty of oil in the world right now."

Guujaw, president of the Haida Nation, isn't saying no to offshore oil. "[But] there's a lot of issues to be resolved. First of all there's the environmental issues. Secondly there's the jurisdictional issues," he said.

His vision is dramatically different from McGuigan's. "Our whole culture is our relationship to the land and we're not going to sell that out for jobs and revenue," he said. "Our culture is about digging clams and catching fish and being out on the water. Right now we could eat as good as any rich people without being rich. Money in itself doesn't answer all the troubles. There'll be more troubles. They've spent 50 years trying to turn us into shoppers already."

Chasing after big money, inviting in globalization and industry, is the root of the existing economic problems, according to Guujaaw.

"Why is there an economic problem? It's because they mismanaged the timber, they mismanaged the fish, they basically took everything from the small communities and put it in the hands of big money. That's the problem."

The most that could happen after January is the beginning of negotiations on a Pacific Accord. Until that's complete, it won't even be known which government owns the oil in the Queen Charlotte Basin. Negotiations will be the most important part of the process – an opportunity for the people of B.C. to set their terms before they open the door to multinational oil corporations, international trade rules and the vagaries of the marketplace. But if locals can get control of their renewable resources – fish and logs – they may not need oil at all.

McGuigan said he believes Prince Rupert has to join the new global economy, whether people like it or not. But from his home in Skidegate, Guujaaw is suspicious of the industrial vision of the coast.

"We live off the land.... [McGuigan] has probably never dug clams in his life," Guujaaw said.

Find a perfect study locale

by Heather McCloy

It's officially crunch time and that means it's time to crack open those textbooks that have been collecting dust since September. Now that you're armed with the necessities: books, pens, highlighters in a rainbow of colours, water bottle, sweater, and some kind of food, the big question is, where to go?

We all try and convince ourselves that it's possible to study at home, but let's be serious here, it really isn't. With the television, the telephone, the fridge, and your worst studying enemy, the bed, it is obvious that there are way too many distractions at home for serious studying.

Thankfully, the university isn't without places to study, but finding the spot that best suits your needs is the challenge. Whether you're a late-night, daytime, well-lit, dimly-lit, absolute quiet, or background noise kind of studier, there should be a place for you.

The most obvious place is the McPherson Library. I don't think I stepped in there once before exam time in first year, so if you're like I was and don't have a special spot you like to call your second home, here are a few suggestions.

The third-floor mezzanine is a great spot for solo studying, and both the second and third floors each have quite a few carrels for you to park yourself in for a few hours. If you're studying in a group, you can find some tables on the second and third floors right beside the stairs, and downstairs in the basement in the foyer. The best part of studying in the main library is that you won't get kicked out until 11 p.m. Downsides to studying in the library are that it's really busy, so depending on what time you get there, you will probably have to hunt around for a good spot. And you can't eat or drink anything besides bottled water without penalty of a pink slip, which actually doesn't mean much aside from the fact that you get interrupted by a library attendant and annoyed stares from your fellow studiers. If you're looking for a really quiet spot equipped with your own personal light, beware of those that buzz too loudly.

Also head over to the law library in the Murray and Anne Fraser Building (formerly Begbie). It's not as busy as the main library and there are plenty of spots with a great view of scenic Ring Road. Not that picturesque, but at least you can see what the weather is like and how dark it is outside.

The Student Union Building is a personal favourite of mine because not only can you study, but you can also get some good food and coffee and even play some arcade games or see a movie (but those aren't too productive). The Michele Pujol Room is a great big room where you can easily spread out your books. But the best place is definitely the SUB Lounge, filled with comfy couches and armchairs. The SUB is open late and the UVSS will love you for spending your time and money in there.

The Clearihue Building seems to always be open. If you are studying on your own or in a group, the classrooms are great places to study. If you don't want to be continually interrupted, take a piece of chalk and write "occupied" on the door, just don't forget to erase it when you're finished.

A few less well-known places on campus are the curriculum lab on the second floor of the MacLaurin Building, the study rooms in the David F. Strong Building and the second floor of the University Centre. However the lab is only open until 8 p.m., there are only a few study rooms, so they are difficult to get a hold of, and it's really easy to fall asleep in the University Centre because of the dim lights and comfortable chairs.

If you're sick of school and don't want to be anywhere near the place unless you need to be, cop a squat in your favourite coffee shop downtown, like Bean Around the World, Mocha House, or Torrefazione. For some great 24-hour places, try Tim Hortons, Blenz, or QV's. Just remember to be considerate and buy some coffee or something to eat if you don't want to be kicked out.

I'm sure that everyone has their favourite places to crack open their books and cram for exams, but if yours are better than mine, don't tell or they won't be so secret anymore.

DJ brings house beats to jam fans

by Darren Stewart

DJ Harry is on a one-man musical outreach program.

To him the live jam-band phenomena ala Phish and The Grateful Dead and the resurgence of turntable driven electronic beats greatly overlap. He wants to bridge the gap between the two scenes and build one big music-mad community based on the boogie.

"People show up for house and jam band shows for the same sensation," he said. "They just want to rock out, to close their eyes and get high from dancing."

DJ Harry is taking that idea and touring the nation to promote his debut album *The String Cheese Remix Project*. The recording only uses organic samples taken from The String Cheese Incident, a popular jam band. To his knowledge a project like this has never been attempted. Dj Harry explained that he had an epiphany after a Grateful Dead show in 1992. After the show in the parking lot of the Oakland Coliseum he saw a house dj work the jam band crowd into a zany dance frenzy. The Deadheads bopped and weaved to deep beats as fervently as they had to Jerry Garcia's guitar solos inside.

"The clothes are different and the venues are different but the music seems to go hand in hand," DJ Harry said.

He said jam band fans often have the misconception that house music is just spit out of computers rather than crafted by musicians. But DJ Harry, who studied music in college and plays the piano, guitar and mandolin, thinks that dance music gets an unfair rap from live music purists. He said his music can help them understand the small distinction between live jams and great house mix.

"With dj'ing it's all about the mood or the vibe," he said. "There may not be as much to watch but the dj show is more atmospheric. You get the crowd all on the same level and then you take them all over the place."

He said the latest album and his live show are all about finding that jam band moment of climax and sustaining it. He said he tried to capture the build-up and explosion of musical energy that popular jams do so well, bottle it and sustain it for the entire album. He spent a long time looking for just the right samples.

"I listened to tracks until I really got a feel for how they felt," he said. "I looked for the build-up, the climax. I like to emulate the part of the jam session that really heats up, that gets hot," he said.

He had thousands of hours of live and studio recordings from past String Cheese Incident performances to go through. String Cheese record all their shows on different tracks and employ a band archivist, who dj Harry consulted to put the album together.

"It was a remixer's dream come true," he said.

DJ Harry will play The Velox Club in Victoria on Dec. 8. He said he'll try some new stuff and play some tracks from the album, some remixes of tracks on the album and some remixes of the remixes.

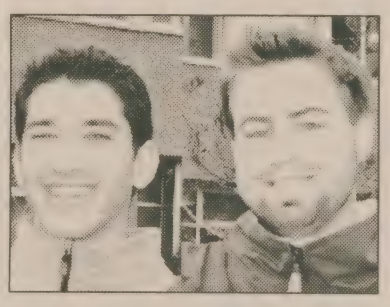
He just completed a tour of North America with The New Deal, an instrumental house band from Toronto.

photo provided

DJ Harry loves his 909, loves his music and would love you to come out and dance to his eclectic beats.

ON THE SPOT What is your holiday wish?

compiled by Horia Coman

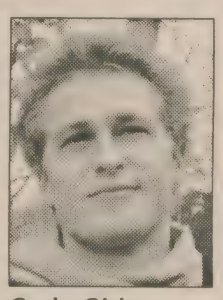


Ian Galbraith *3rd year history*
Alex Mason *3rd year commerce*

A white Christmas in Victoria.

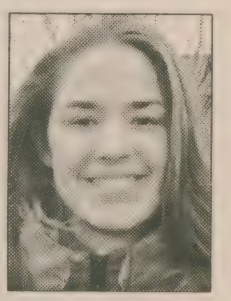
Arwyn Moore
1st year sciences

I want to heal fast so I can do strenuous activity.



Cody Gidney
1st year social sciences

To spend the holidays with my closest friends and family.



Karen Brelsford

I hope everyone remembers that there's more to life than school and we need to remember that not everyone has that same privilege as us, and we should be thankful for what we have.

Nina Lidkea
2nd year english

I want my Siamese fighting fish, who is named David Hasselhoff, to turn into the real David Hasselhoff so I can party with him on *Baywatch*.

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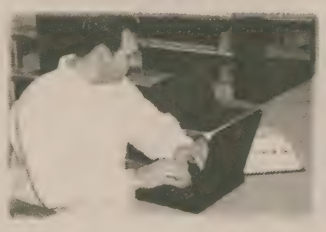

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Victoria's underrated best

by Elianna Lev

After leaving my hometown of Toronto four years ago and making my way to wee, little Victoria, my first impression of the town was precisely this: what the fuck, dude? I knew I was coming to a small city but I didn't expect it to be as small as it is. There were no Chilean bakeries, no Queen Streets, no after-hours bars run by biker gangs. I spent my first year in Victoria, locked inside my desperately empty condo on Burnside Road, wondering what the hell I – a born and bred Torontonian at heart – was doing in such a sleepy, boring, clean city. Over the next three years I realized that Victoria isn't the kind of city that will come up and bite you in the nose with culture, but one where culture needs to be hunted down and trampled on. So I went out and discovered. Along the way I've come across many people, places and things that make this city a diverse and happening place. People, places and things that will make it really hard for me to leave when I'm done on this island. There's a lot more out there to discover, but here's a list of a few of my Victoria favourites.

Smoking Lily – Can we say feminine, witty and sexy? Okay, let's say it together. Feminine. Witty. Sexy. This is my absolutely most favorite store in the world because their stuff is unique and on the money. I don't think they've ever produced something that wasn't pretty and perfect. In Toronto, I made friends with a girl on the subway who was carrying a Smoking Lily bag. I would tell you about their wicked garage sales but they've already become way too popular, so I won't.

Double-deckers – It's the faux splatter painted seats that probably won me over, but BC Transit's double-decker buses certainly have found a place in my heart forever. I love running up to the top, sitting at the front and seeing a tree-top view of Victoria. The best is when branches scrape across the windows and make a sound resembling fingernails on a chalkboard.

Bead World – There was this one bead that I spent my entire summer in Toronto looking for and NO ONE could help me out (it was glass and oval... how hard could it be to find, for fuck's sake?) Once I was back in Victoria, I checked out Bead Word and of course, poof... there it was. Plus the staff are so nice and wonderful; they didn't care when I split a whole bag of a million tiny orange beads all over the ground by accident and went beet red.

John's Noodle Village – Oh my goodness. I don't think I've ever eaten such yummy Chinese food, and Chinese food is the one type of food I've eaten more than any other type of food. They have the yummiest Chow Fun noodles. And order their Spring Roll thingies... they'll catch you by surprise.

Kia Sphere – If this lady was based in New York, she'd be headlining The Knitting Factory on a regular basis. Her talent never fails to astonish me. Her silky voice and her rhyming skills combined with her the sounds of her band – all seriously talented musician – is a real, live, treat.

Hayabola Firespinners – This fire-spinning crew fueled my flame to become a fire-dancer. Their shows, which have become pretty scarce lately, are haunting, erotic, gothic and engulfing.

Stir Fry Crew – Wanna rotate your ass in a circle while listening to some sweet beats? If you're looking for your weekly dose of (live!) hip-hop, reggae and dub, this is what Stir Fry has to offer every Wednesday at Lucky.

Lucky Bar – Which brings us to the greatest bar in Victoria. Lucky isn't the place to go when you want sweaty, hulky men trying to grind their dick into your ass. Lucky is the place to go when you want to get dressed up, regardless of what night it is. They put on great nights (see above) and great shows.

Atomique Productions – The best promoters in town. These guys have their finger on the pulse of what is hip, music-wise. They seem to bring in all that is sweet in the underground. Even if you've never heard of the musicians they're promoting, if it says Atomique, check it out because these guys know what they're doing.

Queen Alexandra Beach – This little beach has a gazebo and sometimes you can see sea lions and whales there. It's quiet and secluded and I've spent many an afternoon there re-thinking my life.

Urge Studios – I've yet to get ink done there but my old roommate got a peacock that covers her whole back and what's most impressive is the colour technique that was put into it, thanks to Urge. Any tattoos I've seen from this place, which has leopard printed walls(!), are truly astounding works of art.

Nick O'Teen – By far the greatest person I've come across on the island. Aside from being the most charismatic, narcissistic, masturbatory freak, in a good way, Nick is the most talented comic artist around. His work makes me cry from laughing so hard but at the same time is political and powerful (but never overbearing... well sometimes). Too bad he doesn't submit to *the Martlet* anymore. Check out his work at www.bentcomics.com, as well as other brilliant island cartoon artists such as Emily Shoichet and Brain Fukushima, à la Comics For Your Church.

Jeff Weaver – This CBC Radio *On the Island* co-host really steals the show. You know he's a cute modest man who wears cords to work and has a beard. He's so soft-spoken and sweet he makes getting up in the morning a grand thing. But I really miss Lisa Kordasco.

Ditch – I have a place in my heart for Ditch because they have the most extensive Zorn (and co.) collection in all of Victoria. They also have a lot of local and underground stuff. Plus the mom of one of the guys who works there bakes cookies that you can buy for a buck. Only thing is that the staff are pretty intimidating and always know way more about music than you do.

Roxy Theater – This place reminds me of the good old days when you could go to the pictures for under a nickel. Plus they have somewhat recent releases and the decor reminds me of an old-style cabaret. What is it, like $5 to see three movies there?

It's a sad thing that this is my final year on this island on the Pacific because I'm sure there's a hell of a lot more here to discover. But for now I will enjoy the simple things in life like double-decker bus rides, $5 movies and ass-shaking on Wednesday nights, because this town has got it all.

photos by Graham Winterbottom

Overrated in Victoria

by Anne Larrass

When a place is overcrowded does it make it less attractive? Sometimes. Especially when you want to be a tourist in your own town and find yourself saying "excuse me" every thirty seconds in order to avoid running into the many tourists that have come from afar to marvel at the wonders Victoria has to offer. I used to be one of these tourists, but decided to stay here because I love Vancouver Island. The forests, the ocean, the lakes and streams, the many opportunities to ride my mountain bike, to go for hikes... there are so may reasons I wanted to become a resident of this beautiful island.

How many tourists come to Victoria and leave without having visited Butchart Gardens or gone on a wild whale watching tour? Not many. And how many of them have gone for a hike in East Sooke Park, along China Beach, seen bears, or looked at the fascinating marine life at Botanical Beach? Not many. Luckily, these places remain sacred and are not tourist hot spots. And it is better to keep them that way.

After spending the day wandering through Butchart or milling about on Government Street, in the evenings, tourists most likely enjoy dinner at Milestone's or Wharfside and dessert at the Cheesecake Cafe, perhaps? Mmhh, those hot, charming sugar sweet servers, what a bonus!

But these places really are overrated. Why?

The Empress – Smack dab in the centre of the tourist milieu, expensive, grandiose. How would you like to go for a drink, sit on plush leather sofa at the Bengal Lounge and pay $9 for a martini? Empressively expensive...? You're definitely not paying for service! And, you know you're at the Empress Hotel because you're served pistachios, not peanuts, with your drinks.

Butchart Gardens – A paradise in the summer, once you manage to squeeze by the herds of people blocking your view. In the winter, and especially at Christmas time, the twinkling lights create a mysterious fairyland ambiance. A true high class tourist trap, it remains a one time experience though, especially for students who do not benefit from a student rate.

Whale watching – Whale watching companies assure tourists that it's important to them to respect the habitat, lifestyle and integrity of the whales. Yet, they also guarantee sightings and often get as close as possible to take pictures, or perhaps, if you're lucky, to quickly touch the whales' glistening skin. We watch them having lunch, playing, nursing, and yes, even engaging in coitus. As intriguing as the experience can be, we are disturbing these beautiful mammals. Why not admit it?

Sweet, sweet Sugar – Wanna suck some nipples? Touch some sexy bodies? Get some rubbin' down? Listen to funky hootchie tunes? Flash your own headlights? See some flexing? Pretend that you're in some flashy big-city dance club? Then pour a little Sugar on it, honey!

Cheese Cake Cafe – Single, desperate, horn...I mean hungry? I hope you're not too starving because it takes a while to get your food. The dessert selection is overwhelming, but whatever choice you make, you're in for a sweet treat! The service makes it even sweeter. Perhaps your waiter will even let you lick the mousse off his fingers. Mmmh!

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Date auction a success

by Simon Glezos

I really didn't know what to expect at a date auction, but I had to assume that desperation would rank pretty high on the list. As a matter of fact I was kind of looking forward to it. You know, that film noir aura of degradation and depression, the sad stench of cheap gin permeating the whole event. Broken men and women handing over their hard-earned cash in the desperate hope of gaining at least one night of respite from the agonizing loneliness that is their lives. And all for a good cause.

Sadly the Victoria Youth Council's date auction was not the foreign film fest of misery and melancholy I was hoping for. As a matter of fact, the whole thing was tinged with this Archie and the Riverdale gang kind of wholesomeness one rarely sees outside of a Meg Ryan/Tom Hanks movie. The auction was run as a fundraising event for the fledgling service club's conference on land mine awareness and human rights, scheduled to take place in February of 2002. The auction also helped to collect canned goods for the Mustard Seed food bank. All in all, the kind of civic-spirited good will that tends to unnerve me.

The event was organized silent-auction style, one wall lined with pictures of the 21 potential partners (13 men and 8 women) and a sheet for bids. The pictures were accompanied by a bio written by the dates themselves, all of which seemed to embody that mix of vanity, self-deprecation, and probable mild deception that seemed nicely emblematic of dating itself. Those that I investigated seemed to possess that general affabililty and indications of future success (high percentage of business and econ majors) that I understand is desirable in a potential mate, along with those sort of fresh faced good looks you usually see modeling in a just-one-step-down-from-haute-couture clothing store.

I talked to a few of the potential auction items, who were gamely overcoming their nervousness in an attempt to enjoy the night.

"I'm looking forward to showing off," said Aaron (last names of the dates were withheld), a Camosun Mathematics students who said one of his friends tricked him into participating. "I can be vain when I have to be."

Others focused on the good they'd be doing. "At first I didn't want to have anything to do with it. I was vehemently against it," said Alanna, a fourth year political science student at UVic. "But it's for a good cause, so I figured why not."

I talked to Kara, one of the organizers of the event, as well as a potential purchase in her own right. She was hopeful of success for the night, saying "We're hoping to raise a lot of money for the conference, that everyone has a good time, and no one gets too embarrassed." Though unfortunately the later didn't happen, as it would have made for a better article, the club did end up raising $1042.00 for the conference.

I didn't end up placing a bid, as everyone from my editor on down expected, it being assumed that this was the only way I could get a date. This is of course absurd, as anyone who knows me should know that my cheapness will overpower my loneliness any day. I unfortunately had to leave before the bidding became too furious, and needed to leave before I became to off-put by this beautiful marriage of commerce and romance.

In the end it was nice to see that despite their supposed apathy, young people will still come up with creative ways to do good in the world. And if some people get a chance at love, well, who am I to complain.

A rebel with a fashion cause

by Owl Blake

Rebel Rebel is about more than clothes. The downtown Victoria shop is an urban gallery showcase of local artists and designers, paired with independent labels from around the world.

"It is a unique store that is our own," said Claudia Knoglinger, clothing designer and co-owner. "Exclusive. Urban, street wear, funky, collective. Not something you can order," she said.

The shop opened in October and features original pieces like hand-tooled antique leather bags that are mixed with panties from Los Angeles and Demeter perfumes "Dirt", "Gin and Tonic", and "Grass" from New York.

Independent labels Wild and Lethal Trash from Germany are expected in February, and Super Lover from Japan will arrive in November.

"Something more original might be more expensive," said Erin Cooper, the other owner of the store. She said that Victorians don't necessarily see that as a good thing, but the ones who appreciate it do so a lot. Cooper said the store caters to those people, in "direct comparison with the mall."

Rebel Rebel is a creative expression for both Knoglinger and Cooper. Their ideas for what to find and what to make come from street level and word of mouth.

"Victoria allows for one of each in the general downtown stores, so if you can do something new, it's one of each," said Knoglinger.

Cooper points out the large canvasses on the store's walls painted by local artists. "At Rebel we're focussing more on local designers," she said.

Both Knoglinger and Cooper have a faithful following from years of experience in fashion. Cooper has a broad customer base after nine years downtown with Still Life (on Yates), where Knoglinger retailed her designs under her previous label, Grun Wear.

They had similar ideas and decided to open a shop together. A location they wanted came up on the corner at Johnson and Broad.

photo by Kendra Ballingall

Erin Cooper poses by some of her fine threads.

"We saw the change that was happening on Johnson street. No chains: little, privately owned, locally owned stores." They had four months to create the entire business.

"You have to do the work until it's done, put 500 per cent into it." Knoglinger said. She feels that like with anything, it's a risk. Too many questions, too much fear, and you will never know.

Knoglinger credits Monday magazine feature articles for helping local artists who are alternative to the mainstream. For Knoglinger, confidence to take this step, despite the current economy, comes from desire, experience and "knowing that [my clothing] sells in Toronto and Vancouver. It's not amateur anymore."

Cooper's challenge was "personally finding the time" to get organized. "There was a lot of thought power" in the three weeks between getting the keys and opening the store, she said.

As for the economy, said Knoglinger, people will always spend money on clothes. Knoglinger perceives a local, generational "support net." She believes as times get tough people won't want to shop at stores like the Gap.

"Where are you really spending your dollar? Do you really want to buy into that whole corporate makeup or do you want something unique, well done, and [that will] support someone you probably know?

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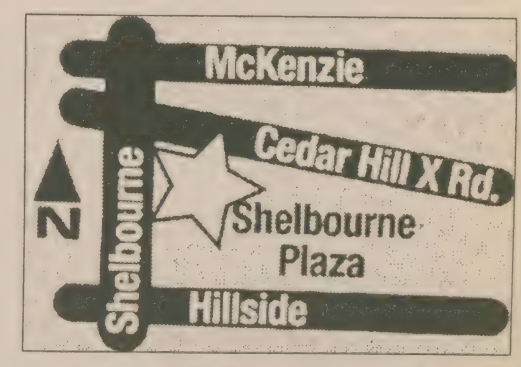

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19 MERCHANTS & SERVICES TO SERVE YOUR NEEDS

Estrogen-charged dj to hit Sugar

by Miranda Post and Elle Baron

photo provided

DJ Heather, one-third of the Chicago-house, estrogen-charged trio, will touch down in Vic-town to deliver her distinctive set of Chi-town beats on Dec. 14 at Sugar.

The former rare-groove extraordinaire will display her 10 plus years culmination of partying and spinning experience with Chicago 'supermen' like Derrick Carter, Mark Farina, Lego, Diz and Johnny Fiasco. Her first gig was at a pub called the Artful Dodger, where she programmed rare groove, disco and hip hop.

"[A friend of mine] suggested that I play records at a local bar, have a few drinks, bring friends, bug out. As time progressed I wanted to mirror the sounds I was hearing at parties and clubs. I wanted to be technically proficient," said DJ Heather. "So I finally bought tables and practiced...a lot."

Heather's style is synonymous with her special delivery of underground house, which combines elements of funk, techno and classic disco.

"Many things influence me, more than just one sound. If it's quality music and I enjoy it, I'll play that record. You have to bring a little bit of everything to what you do and that makes for a broader experience."

She said of her music: "It's trying to incorporate music that you love and enjoy. To make a reflection of yourself out of this art form. It's an extension of you and you have to take it very seriously. And at the same time you take it all with a grain of salt. It is just playing records and it all really comes down to the party."

Heather, along with turntablists DJ Colette and DJ Dayhota are touring the states as Superjane, one of the only all-girl dj collectives.

"We just decided to do what the boys were doing – dj, throw events – but make the focus on female talent. The point was to focus on people who may not have the platform to do their own thing," Heather said.

They called it Jane because to the trio, Jane was every woman, all women.

On her own, Heather has bugged out crowds all over Europe, Canada and the US, playing coveted venues like the Ministry of Sound in London, Berlin Love Parade and Cream's monthly Bugged Out! sessions, as well as her hometown residency at Big Wig.

DJ Heather's shows are known for exuberance and classic dance floor mixes like "Tangerine" on her cd *Afterhours* or "Navigate" on an earlier compilation. Both mixes approach the same idea from a different angle. The idea on both seems to be a pumping sexiness that incorporates vocals and strong percussion in perfect amounts – enough to administer a housey, healthy dose of bootyshake-syndrome. When she's not behind the decks or in transit to the next gig, Heather plies her musicality in the studio, the results of which are two singles, "Where you've never been" on *Afterhours* and "Need Some More" on *Earthtones*.

"There were several dj's on that night but [Heather] blew them all out of the water. She was absolutely amazing," posted an excited raver, Jolee, on a Portland-party web site, "At one point she was spinning without headphones."

For the 1988 Saab-driving Superjane, Heather's recipe for success comes from experimentation and a healthy music scene to do it in. Chicago has provided the environment, Superjane the support, and fans the love for her crazy experiments in the science of rocking the dance floor.

Strolling down the Nile...

Robert Solé
The Alexandria Semaphore

by Katrina Sark

Semaphore d'Alexandrie is the name of one of the most influential newspapers in Egypt in the second half of the 19th century. (Just the name alone makes you want to read this book.)

Try to picture the reflections of palm trees in the waters of the Nile. Men dressed in white suits, and women in pastel gowns according to the latest Paris fashion. Little Egyptian boys running with their bare feet through the bazaars and boulevards. (Can you see them?) Merchants selling all possible colours of the finest silks and young foreign ladies gliding their fingers through the softness of the fabrics, their eyes reflecting the shimmer, while their companions argue about the price.

You can smell oils and spices on every corner, and the warm breeze carries the familiar freshness of the river, and then takes it away just as fast, leaving you at the mercy of the burning sun and the hot air that brushes over your face and sneaks into your lungs. (Can you feel it?) Don't forget it's the 19th century, so there are also carriages, many boats and ships, parasols, gloves, hats, smoking clubs, tuxedos, orchestras playing the waltz, cafes, dinners, and a lot of etiquette. (Now you get the picture.)

You are introduced to Maxime. He is 35 years old, a successful journalist in Alexandria, fluent in Arabic and French. He invites you to join him at the family villa one early summer day. As you sink into white wicker chairs on the sunlit terrace and the maid-servant brings out Turkish coffee on a silver tray, he begins to tell you a story.

It is the story of his life. Starting with his first visit to Alexandria when he was a little boy, his first romantic feelings, first perceptions of his country and its people.

You are taken on a journey through Egypt's history, through the building of the Suez Canal, the influence of the Europeans, Egypt's fascination with the French way of life, the cultural diversity of that time that disappeared in the wrinkles of history.

In the background there is a very detailed view of the events through the eyes of a newspaper. And as every narrative driven by some kind of desire, Maxime gets emotional (and goes on and on and on) about the object of his affection, who turns out to be a married woman (but that is just what makes it so irresistible).

As you follow Maxime on his journey from Cairo to Alexandria, from the constructions of the Canal to the intimacy and darkness of a bedroom in an abandoned villa, and from the adventurousness of his youth to the complications of mature years, you are left with an unfulfilled sense of life, and a strong urge to go to Egypt.

Enjoy the trip.

CD REVIEW

For the good times

Courtney Wing
for the good times
independent

by Anne Larrass

Courtney Wing, what a talented man! I am blown away by his skill. He captures the spirit of good times in his mellow tunes that are full of funky beats and his passion for life.

Blues, Jazz, folk, rock, a little bit of bluegrass and country, you name it, it's all there. He wrote and composed the music to every song in only eleven months and has now left for Austin, Texas, to record his second cd.

Wing studied history and English at UVic to "broaden [his] brain," but his real passion is music. He started to play the guitar when he was only eight years old.

"I get my inspiration from being in interesting and unusual places, [and] when I find myself in extreme situations," he said. Wing started writing "Union Man" in a grain elevator, working in a factory near Vancouver one summer.

He wrote "Sugar Pie" in Guatemala, after coming "out of a blue grass festival surrounded by three smoldering volcanoes."

"I like to be in beautiful places when I write," Wing said. His love for beauty is clearly reflected in his music, and so are his most memorable good times.

If you are feeling mellow, want to relax after a long day of work or school, pop in *for the good times* and let the friendly and uplifting tunes add a peaceful touch to your day.

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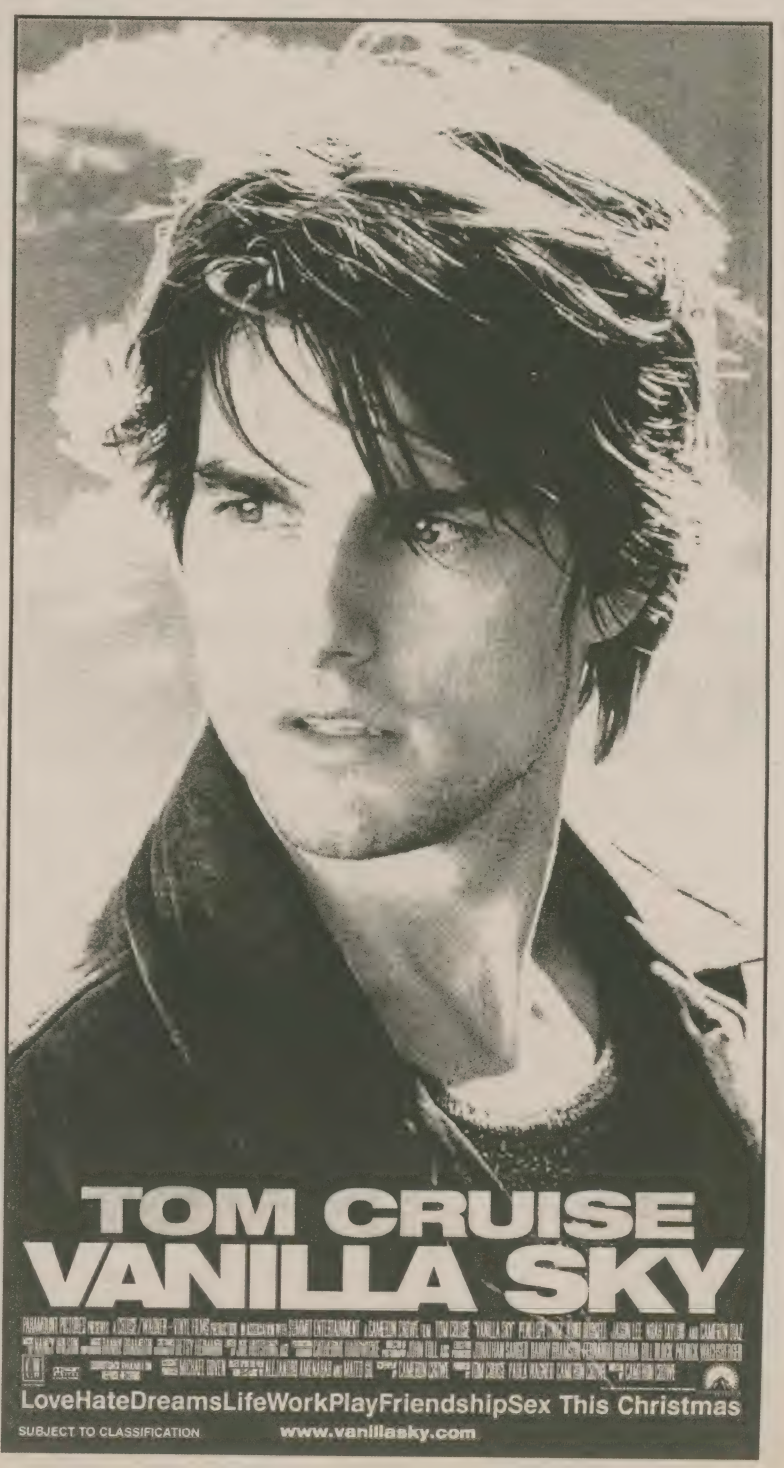


Sports scope

Men's Basketball
Canada West Conference

	GP	W	L	PTS	PCT
Pacific Division					
Simon Fraser	8	7	1	14	.875
Victoria	8	5	3	10	.625
UBC	8	4	4	8	.500
Trinity Western	8	1	7	2	.143
Central Division					
Alberta	10	9	1	18	.900
Lethbridge	8	3	5	6	.375
Saskatchewan	8	3	5	6	.375
Calgary	8	2	6	4	.250

Women's Basketball
Canada West Conference

Pacific Division					
Simon Fraser	8	8	0	16	1.000
UBC	8	5	3	10	.625
Trinity Western	8	2	6	4	.250
Victoria	8	1	7	2	.143
Central Division					
Alberta	8	6	2	12	.750
Lethbridge	8	4	4	8	.500
Saskatchewan	8	4	4	8	.500
Calgary	8	3	5	6	.375

Men's Rugby
BC Rugby Union Premier Division

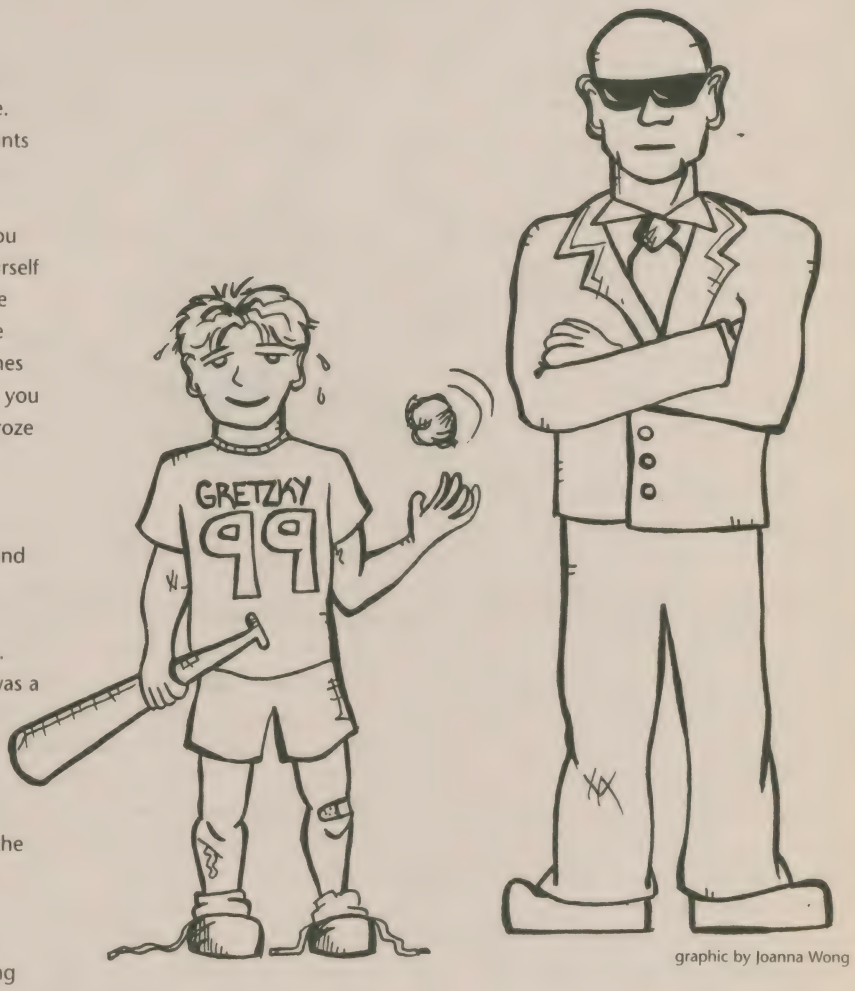
	GP	W	L	T
Wanderers	9	7	2	0
Victoria	9	7	2	0
Capilano RFC	8	6	2	0
James Bay	9	5	4	0
Ravens	9	4	4	1
Pacific Pride	7	4	2	1
Burnaby Lake	9	4	5	0
Bayside	9	3	6	0
Meraloma	8	2	6	0
British Lions	9	0	9	0

Women's Rugby
West Coast Women's Rugby Association

Douglas	9	8	0	1
Burnaby	9	6	2	1
James Bay	9	5	3	1
Simon Fraser	9	3	6	0
Mudhens	8	2	4	2
Victoria	8	2	5	1
UBC	8	1	7	0

Retraction woes and the loss of purity in baseball, again

by Craig Battle



graphic by Joanna Wong

Think back. No, further than that. Back to when sports were all about recess. The park behind your house. The grass stains on every pair of pants you owned.

Think back to the days spent playing catch with whatever ball you could find, maybe you made it yourself out of socks or masking tape, in the backyard or the bottom field or the kitchen. The oranges at soccer games on Saturday mornings. The hockey you played the one winter your pond froze over.

Okay. Now forget them. The memories don't belong to you anymore. Someone bought them and gave them to Alex Rodriguez as a signing bonus. Sports became a business when you weren't looking.

Oh, right. You already knew it was a business.

The strikes and salary caps and television rights in the professional leagues tipped you off years ago. Expansion and free agency ruined the teams you cared about, stole your favourite players and took them elsewhere, and then it became all about the logos. You stopped paying attention.

Or, did you? Maybe you hung around, hoping things would change or return to normal or something. Maybe, you thought, time would stop or move in reverse and everything would be all right.

Player resurrections like Michael Jordan and Mario Lemieux and Michael Jordan again made you believe that anything was possible. If Jordan can push middle age and still lead the league in scoring, then sports can be virginal again, right?

I mean, professional teams could regain their identity and excitement and overall worth, whether they win championships or not. Player salaries could make sense again. Ticket prices could fall within the average budget. All our west coast ponds could freeze over forever. Everything could be fine. Right?

Well, no. That's not going to happen. Jordan will spend the better part of his comeback in the hospital, and sportscasters will wear out the phrase, "Well, I guess you can't go home again."

Neither can sports, for that matter. Sports, at least the professional variety, will always be more business than pleasure.

Last month, mere days after the seventh game of the World Series, Major League Baseball owners voted to lop two teams off the league roster. The Montreal Expos will be one of them.

Hey. Here's a question. Who cares? Anyone?

Sure, there are probably five or six people out there with classic blue and red and white Expos caps lamenting the loss of their team over beers with friends. It's a sad day. That logo means a lot to them.

It's just a logo, though. The Expos and their owner, apparently a New York art dealer with few ties to Quebec, haven't cared back. It's supposed to be, as a wise man once told me, "All about the love," but there is absolutely no love whatsoever coming out of Montreal. No players, no fans, nothing.

The Expos are a product of the system, a system that's backfiring. Salaries have risen so high that smaller market teams can't pay them. So players seek the highest bidders, who eventually become the best teams, and fans stop filling seats on game days. The Expos continue not to make money. And on and on and on.

Expansion has thinned talent pools, added batches of players who probably shouldn't be there, so both games and teams lack depth. The only solution now is contraction. Why not?

The only problem is that the owners are doing it for all the wrong reasons. They want profit. They want a bigger share of the television rights and a lighter travel schedule. But it shouldn't be about the profit. It shouldn't be about the players or fans, either. It should, damn it, be about the love.

Yeah. The love. The game. The naiveté and innocence and simplicity of throwing a ball back and forth through the air, learning to count to 500.

It should be about the days spent playing in the park with aluminum bats and tennis balls on hot summer days. The homerun fences you built with sticks and rope and morning glory. The window you broke with a foul ball, which is the reason you began playing with tennis balls in the first place, and how somehow that's what you associate with your first kiss.

But who knows? Maybe contraction is exactly what we've all been waiting for all these years.

Maybe the world of professional sports is finally heading back there. To the bottom field. The park behind your house. The balls made of tape.

It could happen. Just maybe.

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Talking hockey with a great

by Matt Coxford

SASKATOON (CUP) – He is a man who has parlayed an astounding memory and a penchant for National Hockey League trivia into a career. He lives and breathes hockey. In fact, he has the distinction of being the only person in history to propose marriage (it should be noted, successfully) on the ice at the Montreal Forum.

Welcome to the amazing hockey world of Liam Maguire.

That proposal story is remarkable enough, even if you ignore his wife's original aversion to the game of hockey.

"[The] first night I met her [was] April 3, 1993," he says. "It was a Saturday night. Montreal was playing Buffalo. A group of us met at this house in downtown Ottawa. Of course we couldn't leave 'til *Coaches Corner* was done and we had to make sure the tape was taping the rest of the game.

"She came in the room with her sister and introductions were being made. I shook her hand and she said, 'I know who you are, and I just wanted to let you know I don't like hockey.' I said, 'Okay!'" he recalls, laughing. "Six months later we were engaged, so figure it out."

Most anyone could tell you those sorts of details about the day they first met their spouse. Maybe not the date, but at least who was on Hockey Night In Canada that evening. The thing with Maguire is, he would have remembered all those things even if he hadn't met the future Mrs. Liz Maguire.

The man, who figures he has seen about 800 games live and another 2500 on the box, could fill a book with all the stuff he knows about hockey. It stands to reason, then, that he has filled a book.

What's the Score?, published by Random House Canada, is billed as a one-of-a-kind compendium of hockey lore, legend, history, facts and stats.

Maguire is especially proud of what he calls "the most incredible statistic of all time," involving the 1970 Stanley Cup winning goal, which has been immortalized by Ray Lussier's photograph of Boston's Bobby Orr celebrating in mid-air.

Six years ago, Liam and his friends were hanging out at his Ottawa area sports bar when the conversation turned to who tripped Orr.

"'You know, that was Noel Picard,'" he recounts the conversation. "'What number was he?' 'Well, Noel was four.' 'Orr wore four and Noel wore four.' 'Now wait a minute now, it was the fourth goal in the fourth period of the fourth game to make the score 4-3, for the four-game sweep. It was Boston's fourth Stanley Cup...'"

Sesame Street's Count von Count would be proud. All told, Maguire discovered an astounding 70 correlations between Orr's goal and the number four.

"I think, if you do nothing else, go to the store and just read that part of the chapter, even if you don't want to buy the book," he pleads. "Read through that because it is freaky stuff, man."

What's the Score? is Maguire's second book, and while his first was strictly trivia, his newest contains more editorial content. Those who are familiar with Liam's numerous appearances on TSN's *Off the Record*, will know he's a very opinionated man.

One of his pet peeves is Paul Henderson's baffling exclusion from the Hockey Hall of Fame.

"It was just one of those magical times, when you think about it," he says of the 1972 Summit Series between Canada and the Soviet Union.

"Thirty-four seconds to go in the final game? You couldn't have written that script. No one would've believed it. To come back and win the last three games? Win 'em all by one goal, same guy gets the winner all three games. How do you figure that? It's unreal."

"I know, though, I've pissed off a lot of people," he says regarding his crusade to get Henderson in the Hall.

"The Selection Committee would probably like to have me run over," he says. "I got a phone call from one of them six months into it, telling me things I should and shouldn't be saying publicly. I had to tell the guy, 'Hey listen, no offence, but go fly a kite, brother.'"

He promises he won't be placated.

"One of two ways, boys: put the whole team in or put Paul in," he says. "Otherwise, somehow, we'll bring the whole friggin' country down on ya."

"We have big plans for next year," he says. "I want the whole team to get the Companion Order of Canada. Can you believe [Henderson] doesn't have it? You know, they give it to Mary Walsh, from *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, and they won't give it to Paul Henderson."

If the folks in charge have the idea that Maguire will blink first, they ought to think again. It's not in his nature.

photo by Graham Winterbottom

Veteran Vikes' guard Lindsay Anderson shoots over the outstretched arms of a Regina Cougar defender in action at McKinnon Gym Saturday, Nov. 24.

Basketball roundup

by Iain McLetchie

Once you and I are finished writing finals, we'll be off and away on a blissful Christmas vacation.

The same cannot be said for the UVic women's basketball team, though, who have a full slate of practices throughout December. They'll chase those with a post-holiday tournament in Calgary and an early January trip to Brandon, Manitoba, for the re-start of Canada West play. The team will get a few days off before Christmas, including the grand day itself, but will go right back to work on Boxing Day.

For the Vikes, who are 1-7 in league play, the break from games will be a chance to go over some fundamentals and to try and iron out some difficulties in execution. It's the little things that have hurt the team, but now is the time to work on them.

"This is an opportunity to get back to fundamentals, focus on team stuff and get a little better," said Head Coach Brian Cheng.

The Vikes have struggled in the early going this season, but maybe that's to be expected. The team lost five players last year, and has been slow to adjust. With only one starter returning, guard Lindsay Anderson, other players have had to step up to fill the vacuum.

"We've graduated 11 players in the last three years," stated Cheng, "but the most important were the five we lost last year. We need people to step up into some new roles and to make contributions that they haven't made before."

And while the team's league record isn't going to knock the skates off a hockey player, they also haven't had the easiest schedule around. Canadian Interuniversity Sport RPI rankings, which rank teams based on the toughness of their schedule, say UVic has the twelfth toughest overall schedule in Canada. This rating includes preseason patsy Western Ontario, who UVic easily handled, so the Vikes actual league schedule is undoubtedly one of the toughest in Canada.

Each of those factors could be used as a pretty valid excuse, but Cheng instead uses them to point out the progress his team has made so far this season. Progress which, while hidden behind the losses, has been fairly significant.

After being blown-out against SFU early in the season (who Cheng described as 'head and shoulders above the others'), the team quickly responded. Two weeks ago, they held the University of Regina Cougars, the defending CIS champs, to 55 points. Unfortunately, the Vikes could only muster a measly 44 points of their own, a problem which has appeared a couple times. Cheng acknowledged that's something the squad needs to focus on.

"We know we have the defence," he said, "but the team needs to generate scoring."

The lack of team experience has resulted in a few letdowns during games, each of which has proven costly.

"We need to put out a good team effort consistently," said Cheng. "We have to play with passion and urgency for 40 minutes, not just for 35 minutes. We play eight or nine people [in the regular rotation], so we need people to step up in practice and show us what they can do."

According to Cheng the Vikes second-half schedule is slightly easier than the first half was, and with 12 games remaining, he feels they have a chance to vie for the second or third playoff spot.

"Can we get there? I think so," he said. "The top teams in Canada West are dropping and the bottom teams are rising, so there's a lot of parity this season."

The team will get its first chance to make a move on Jan. 4 and 5 in Brandon.

Dispelling rugby myths an ongoing task on campus

by Mark Lawson, captain of the Vikes Men's Rugby Team

"So you play rugby, do you?" asked Dick (real name withheld).

"Yeah, I play for UVic," I replied.

Working on a group project, my newly acquainted group members and I were doing the usual get-to-know-you small talk.

"Big drinker, eh?" he continued, a knowing laugh accompanying the comment.

That's right, Dick. Rugby and drinking pretty much sum me up.

Now please don't misunderstand my intent here. In no way do I wish to equate the misrepresentation of the Vikes rugby team in the Nov. 22 edition of *the Martlet* with genuine suffering, such as that experience daily by so many minority groups who are unjustly discriminated against.

The pigeonholing I experience is more ridiculous than it is oppressive. For this reason I commonly laugh off remarks such as Dick's brilliant deduction regarding my favourite passtime.

However, after reading Julia Smith's article, in which she speculates "perhaps [the Vikes] don't care...as long as they can drink their beer, sleep with a few girls now and then, and play or watch sports," I decided that the Dicks of the world needed to hear some more accurate facts about the team.

Is drinking a part of rugby? Yes. Having a post-match beer with your opposite number has been a rugby tradition since the game was founded over a century ago.

Do the Vikes get drunk "twice a week, if not more?" No. Our team, the top university rugby side in North America, practices four times a week, and practices hard. Add to that a Saturday game and schoolwork – Men's rugby had one of the highest GPA's of any varsity team last year – and you're lucky if half of us make it out on Saturday night to celebrate our win.

Does a tiny minority of our team womanize? Yup. But whether or not you condone pursuing relationships with numerous females at a time, womanizing is NOT a rugby-specific phenomenon.

Is this lifestyle choice made by members of the chess club? The English department? *The Martlet*? What do you think?

Is rugby a big part of our lives? Yes. Does this make us any more one-dimensional than those who challenge themselves at another discipline? No. Members of our club volunteer their time coaching elementary and high school teams, working at youth drop-in centres and organizing activities for the White Ribbon Campaign (that's men against violence against women, for those unaware), to name a few.

Rugby, like many other sports, affords us the chance to push ourselves out of our comfort zone physically, mentally, and yes, emotionally. Stereotypes, the oppressive AND the ridiculous, do nothing but keep those who subscribe to them firmly rooted in their comfort zone.

People categorize out of convenience, because it's easier to see rugby players downing whole pints of beer in one go on Saturday night than it is to wake up at eight on Sunday morning and watch the same people teach 12-year-old kids how to throw a spin pass.

So before subscribing to *the Martlet's* ideas about our "beer-guzzling, womanizing, macho exterior," I'd advise the Dicks of the world to, in the words of Ani Difranco, "take a few steps back and put on a wider lens."

Oh, you'll still see some drinking, but you'll also see some amazing individuals and an inspiring rugby team.

Wishing the injuries away

So, what are you hoping for this holiday season? *Martlet* sports editor Iain McCletchie has his wish list wrapped and ready to go. Come along for a ride on Santa's sleigh into the sporting world.

by Iain McLetchie

Oh, he's making a list, checkin' it twice, gonna find out who's naughty or nice, Santa Claus is coming to town.

In the spirit of Christmas wish lists around the world we, *the Martlet* sports staff, thought it would be a smooth move to mention who in the world of sports will be receiving gifts and who will be receiving lumps of coal this season.

Now, Santa obviously can't carry around a huge sack of coal and a enormous pouch of goodies, so we had to deal in hypothetical terms. But you'll catch our drift. We think.

For his brilliant efforts this past year in bringing life back to pro hockey, energy back to a moribund Pittsburgh Penguins franchise and, well, just his overall goodness, we wish Mario Lemieux would receive a new hip, a new back and the vigour of a 22-year-old.

For choosing to smoke a joint or two, and for his unwillingness to convince kids to NOT do so, we wish Lamar Odom would receive a year-long boot camp with Oprah Winfrey.

For proving that the CFL is still a viable alternative in this day-and-age of... oh, never mind.

For winning 116 games, despite losing three of baseball's best players (and thereby proving that winning has less to do with money than it does with chemistry and desire), we wish the Seattle Mariners would receive a World Series championship.

For passing up on a chance to play for Canada in the Olympics, and for making up some lame-ass reason why he's doing so, we wish Patrick Roy would instantly transform into Mike Vernon, or at least into a sieve – both amount to the same thing. Come on now, Patty; drop your ego at the door – 99.1% of Canadians would love to have the chance you're turning down.

For leading the NHL in scoring, despite being left off the All-Star ballots, and for saying he "loves playing in Calgary," we wish that Jarome Iginla would receive a salary worthy a player of his abilities. Oh, and that the Flames will be the team giving it to him.

For getting kicked off his sixth team (the Denver Nuggets), and for being an all-around idiot, we wish that Isaiah (J.R.) Rider would get a chance to play pro ball in Turkey. Why? Just so he can have some time to realize how blessed he is to be good enough to play NBA basketball.

For his brilliant and patient work in building up the Dallas Mavericks... hey, who are we kidding? Mavs owner Mark Cuban is a ridiculously wealthy nut, but we still hope he receives a halfway decent centre to replace 7'6" pylon Shawn Bradley. Speaking of the Mavs, we hope local lad Steve Nash receives a solid set of sideburns to complement his unruly 'do.

For a team hammered with injuries and a tough schedule, we wish the UVic men's basketball team would receive a fresh, injury-free roster in the new year so we can see what they have to offer. Oh yeah, and that Eric Rushton would finally throw down that windmill jam he keeps trying in warmups.

For being a solid human being, even though he made a few horrible movies and a couple terrible rap albums, we wish that Shaquille O'Neal would receive the gift of accurate free-throw shooting, thereby making him absolutely, positively the best basketball player in the world.

For long-suffering hockey fans in Southern Alberta, we wish for one simple thing: One more Battle of Alberta in the playoffs.

For long-suffering hockey fans in Vancouver and the rest of British Columbia, we wish for one simple thing: can the Canucks please pick up a good goalie?

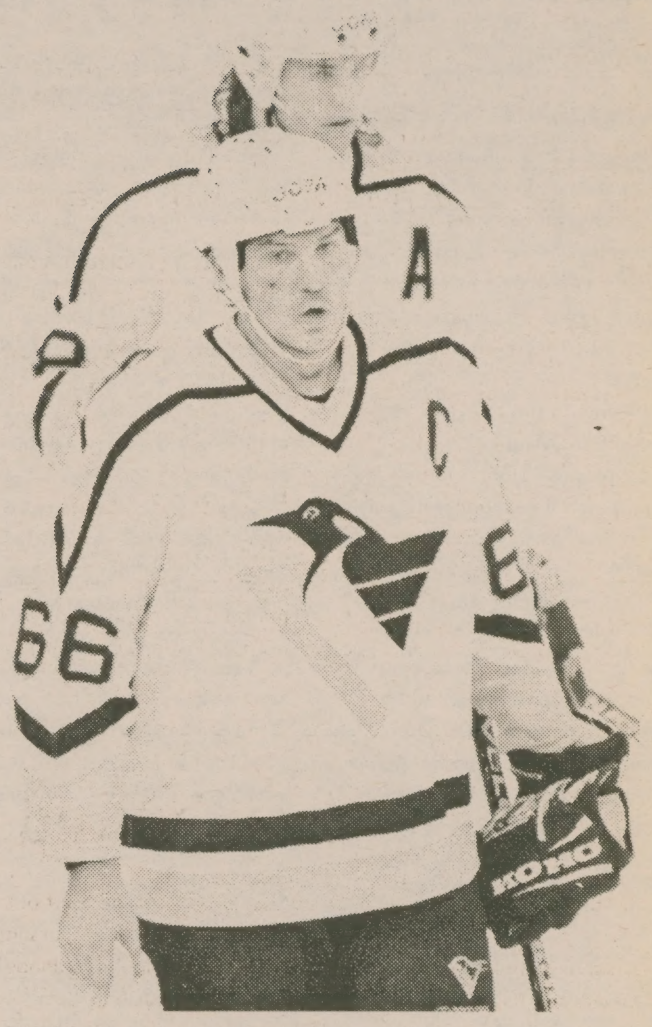

photo provided

For Canada as a whole, we wish for one thing: That the Great Gretzky would lace up the skates one more time and center a line with Mario and some other lucky stiff in the Salt Lake Olympics.

For Nikki and Jibs, I wish for two simple things: love and happiness forever and ever, amen.

Have a great holiday and a happy new year.

UVic Ultimate looks to make a mark on the national scene

by Julia Smith

It's a fast-paced sport, but it's not violent. There are no referees, but there is strong spirit. It's a new Olympic sport, but it's still informal. It's fun, it's cheap, it's "the stereotypical hippie sport."

David Klassen, a University of Victoria science student, has been playing Ultimate Frisbee for four years now. This year he took it upon himself to try to get the UVic Ultimate Club "fired up."

The team had hoped to go to this year's Canadian University Tournament. It alternates every two years between Eastern and Western Canada, and this year it was out East.

The team started out enthusiastic to go to the tourney, but as the tournament approached people slowly dropped out, partly because of finances, said Klassen.

Since Ultimate at UVic is considered a club, not an intervarsity sport, and doesn't get much funding from the university, team members are responsible for the full costs of travel.

Klassen believes the club is still too small to be an official UVic team, and also that "people are tentative to take the reins."

He tried to be responsible for the club but found that, as a full-time student, he was too busy. He said he doesn't believe the club is ready to take the leap to an official team, at least not until there is stronger leadership.

Klassen described Ultimate as, "a lot like football with no contact."

The field is half of a soccer field and the players pass the 175g disc, or Frisbee, up the field. A catch over the end line is a score.

It is generally a safe sport and inexpensive, as well. The only equipment necessary are things most people have already: a Frisbee, cleats, shorts and a t-shirt.

"It's a fun sport," Klassen said. "You get hooked."

Ultimate appeals to a lot of people because of its informal nature, he added.

> You can just go out and play, but there is a lot more to the game than just throwing the Frisbee around.
>
> *David Klassen*

"It attracts people that just want to have fun with their friends, with no referees," Klassen said.

Though there are no referees, there is a rule book and fouls are called by the players themselves. Despite the lack of official enforcement, disputes are rare and games are generally good-natured.

According to Klassen, "There is a lot of spirit."

At the end of each game each team gathers to make up a cheer, song or rap for their opponents.

The UVic club practices twice a week. Klassen runs the practices, which usually include passing the Frisbee around and a fun scrimmage.

Most club members also play in intramural games on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tuesday attracts the beginner crowd, whereas Thursdays are more competitive.

Ultimate is also big in the Greater Victoria scene. There are a lot of clubs that compete and host tournaments. Every Hallowe'en there is the Pumpkin Pull tournament, during which the teams pick themes and dress up accordingly.

Klassen said that, although Ultimate can be a fun and relaxed sport, the competitive level is fast-paced.

"You can just go out and play, but there is a lot more to the game than just throwing the Frisbee around."

Ultimate is a growing sport, gaining massive popularity in Vancouver and down the American West Coast. It was a trial sport at the 2000 Summer Olympics and soon will be an official Olympic sport.

Victoria is putting in a bid for the Canadian University Tournament next year and Klassen thinks they have a good chance of getting it.

If they do, it could draw even more players out and motivate the club to make its mark in the tournament.

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HEY YOU

Bus girl Shannon – If you don't wanna quit fuckin' around and talk straight with me next time I see you it's all over (i.e. it will NEVER happen, NEV-ER). This is no joke – Nathan

Attention Torontonians! Are you driving from T.O. to Victoria after Christmas? How'd ya like to have a companion? Like 250 lbs of coffee? I am trying to ship 250 pounds of green beans to Victoria. They wont talk your ear off and they do pay mileage, so if you're interested call Kevin @ 386-1010 or e-mail kevinbsmith@hotmail.com

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SOAPBOX

Grey-haired men march for capitalism

by John Thompson

Another Sunday, another protest in Victoria. As usual I'm late and have to run until I find a group marching down Government street with placards in their hands.

"Free Trade is Fair Trade," one read. "Capitalism is the only moral system," said another. The group of about 15 comprised mainly of grey-haired men, who briskly walked towards the legislature, passing bewildered onlookers and several homeless people under the overcast sky.

Just to be clear: this wasn't a joke. There were no tongues in cheeks, playful winks or other hints of sarcasm or irony. This was serious stuff: D2, the global walk for capitalism. It could easily be mistaken for some sort of anti-globalization self-parody, but this wasn't the case.

Capitalism's been given a bad rep lately, and unfairly so, organizer Dennis Miller argued at the legislature. He went on to describe the wonders and possibilities of capitalism, which included rock concerts and symphonies.

At the heart of Miller's argument is that capitalism values individual freedom over forms of compulsion: things like taxes and forms of regulation. Which is why, fittingly enough, he awarded the provincial government with the Capitalist Achievement Award. Anyone who favours dramatic tax-cuts, privatizing public services and cutting 30 per cent of the civil service is clearly in the right, Miller said, who is himself a government employee.

Reporting this puts me in an awkward position. On one hand, I despise smarmy mainstream reporters who trivialize protests, misquote activists and make no effort to understand the issues at stake. But on the other hand, does capitalism really need a march? Several onlookers certainly didn't think so. "I don't think capitalism needs a march," said Megan Thom, "capitalism is everywhere."

I spoke to a few of the participants, most of whom were upset from past encounters with government bureaucracy. One used to be a fisherman, until the stocks dried up, government tightened regulations and began buying back fishing licenses. He went on to work as an electrician and became disgruntled with the union. Since then, he's believed the free market is the only way to go.

It's doubtful that lasse-faire economics would solve these problems. On the contrary, unregulated fishing would decimate the stocks further, and his enthusiasm for free-market solutions bordered on religious faith. Still, his response was a very human one and hard to dismiss: genuine disgruntlement, clutching the promise of a simple solution.

The protest moved on, stopping next in front of McDonalds, where the multinational grease-trap was given an award too. "We applaud McDonalds for all their accomplishments," Miller said. Next stop was Starbucks, where Thrifty Food's owner Alex Campbell was given an award, and Miller spoke to a local television crew. He explained that capitalism naturally leads to peace, and went as far to say that it was a sign of a person's good character.

It wasn't long before onlookers began to challenge Miller's dubious claims. One asked how liberating the marketplace was for maquiladora workers, but he didn't receive much of an answer. "Freedom is not slavery," Miller insisted. The discussion soon ended abruptly. "I'm not here to discuss this," he said, "I'm here to express my opinion."

This is where protest goes wrong: when there's willingness to shout, but none to debate. Of course, the same criticism could be leveled against today's protest movement - not always, just during its worst moments. Speaking in generalizations becomes conversational shorthand (think "people before profit"). It's like solving a math equation without showing how you arrived at a solution. You'll be understood by people who already agree with you, but won't do much in terms of outreach, which is sort of the idea.

Maybe we can learn a lesson from capitalists: Show your damn work.

STUDENT VOICE

Writers should look deeper at flawed economic system

by Jeff Larochelle

Nov. 29's *Martlet* exposes a devastating flaw in a free-market economic system that forces people to live in poverty while giving us no choice but to consume the world's natural resources at a rate far beyond sustainability.

In a market-driven system, consuming things and having jobs are mandatory: no consumption equals no jobs. Therefore, consumption and production are not subject to rational thought processes, for everyone is forced to either consume and have a job – or live and die in poverty.

However, on the front page of the *Martlet*, we see "Buy Nothing Day" activists trying to "disrupt Victoria's buyological urge." And in his "Buy Nothing Day looks at deeper issues," article, David Ball states that in the Third World "corporations like Nike and Gap employ people at wages too low for people to live on."

Moreover, in another *Martlet* story, "Changing your perspective on poverty," Heather Neale describes some of the problems of trying to live on welfare in an economic system where the basic cost of healthy living far exceeds the money welfare recipients get. She concludes: "We need to get to the root of the issue and keep an open mind to stop the generational poverty cycle."

However, without those jobs "at wages too low for people to live on," or those welfare benefits that are too low to keep people healthy, billions of people would have nothing at all on which to live.

And, given that millions of people all over the world don't have paid jobs, we are facing a poverty crisis of genocidal proportions. According to the World Bank's own statistics: "At the start of a new century, poverty remains a global problem of huge proportions. Of the world's six billion people, 2.8 billion live on less than $2 a day and 1.2 billion on less than $1 a day". (World Development Report 2000/2001: Attacking Poverty – http://www.worldbank.org/poverty/wdrpoverty/).

Under a free-market economic system, poverty exists precisely because people don't 'buy' anywhere near enough 'stuff' to create full, global employment. The logic is very exacting: The consumption of 'stuff' creates money and jobs, whereas 'non' consumption shrinks the economy and causes people to lose their jobs and not have the money they need to stay out of poverty.

It is our need to consume things to stay alive that creates the basis for more production, jobs, money and economic growth. However, beyond food and other basic life-giving necessities, the production of nonessential 'stuff' by itself is meaningless until a consumer goes to the store and buys something.

This is why we can't all be employed doing a well-paid job at a university or working for the government like Premier Gordon Campbell. The obvious problem with all unproductive jobs is that someone else has to be growing food, harvesting it and transporting it to the market, or millions of people would starve to death while sitting in their offices, talking on the phone or working on their computers.

More to the point, people who do unproductive jobs don't directly produce the money that pays their salaries. As such, before a university professor can get paid to teach, other people must produce and consume real physical objects in order to create the money that pays the professor's salary.

But this raises a basic moral question concerning the nature of rational, healthy consumption: How can the world's people as a group consume enough stuff to keep production at a high enough level to create a sufficient amount of jobs and money to prevent people from living in poverty?

For example, if the world's people were to heed medical advice on the health-hazards of using tobacco products and quit using them, then millions of people would immediately lose their jobs. The same goes for the massive over-consumption of alcohol and many other forms of health-destroying consumption.

This is especially true of the over-consumption of food containing large quantities of white flour, sugar, salt and fat. If people quit eating and drinking 'junked' foods, and consumed foods with high nutritional value while being physically active, not only would millions of people lose their jobs in the junk food industry but millions more would lose their jobs in the massive remedial health-care and pharmaceutical industries.

All of this non-consumption would dramatically shrink the world's money supply and greatly reduce the number of jobs. Obviously, there would also be far less money available to pay the salaries of people who do non-productive work.

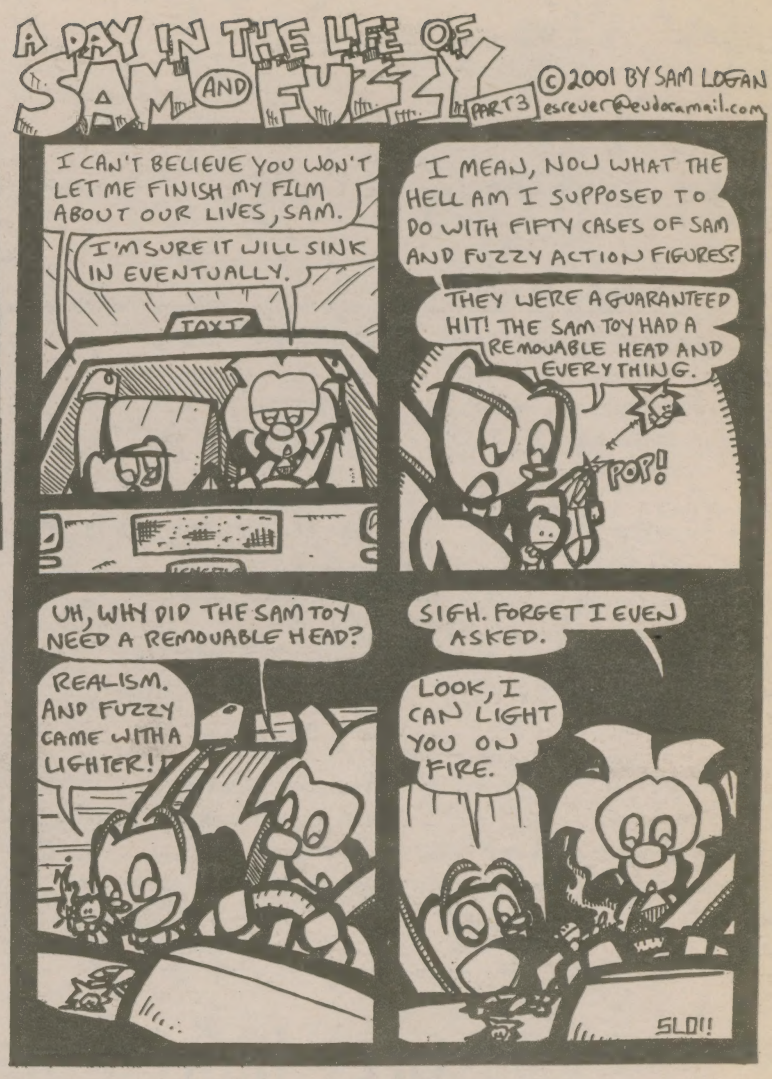
When people go to university to get degrees in the social sciences, and then study 'poverty' as sociological phenomena, it greatly exacerbates people's poverty problems. Millions of university graduates all over the world now have 'well-paid' jobs researching social problems related to poverty. However, these jobs do little more than steal food and other basic resources out of the mouths of poor people.

First and foremost, poverty is not having clean water, nutritious food, basic building materials for shelter and fuel and clothing to keep warm. To provide these things for themselves, people need to use the very same natural resources that are currently being used to create tens of millions of jobs for university graduates in the 'non-productive' sectors of society.

People are driven to hoard wealth by their fear of poverty and by the sickness and death it brings. Therefore, until we act to rid ourselves of an irrational economic system that allows people to hoard vast quantities of wealth, we will have no choice but to find whatever jobs we can regardless of the impact that our massive over-consumption has on the environment.

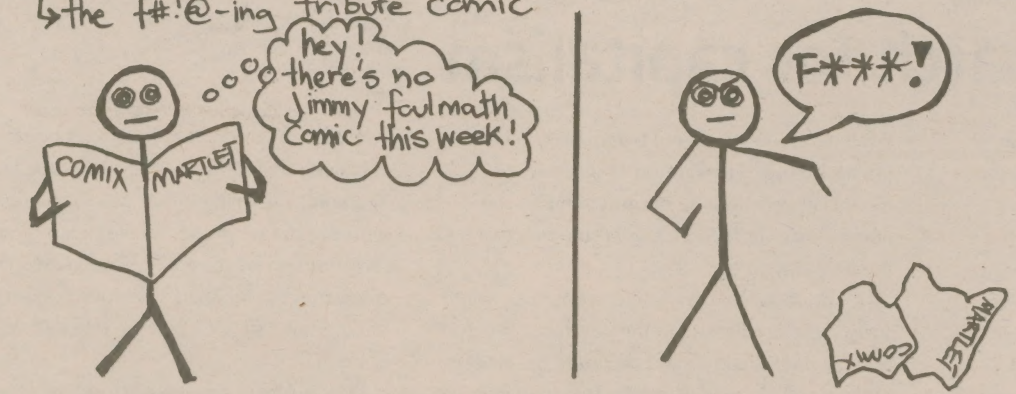
Poverty is a political problem that requires direct action. We must act to ensure that all people have rational access to the material resources they need to be healthy. Until we are prepared to do this, millions of people will continue to die from poverty-related health problems every year even as we squander the world's resources building junk-food restaurants and filing poverty studies in university libraries.

SWEATING THE SMALL STUFF.
COMICS FOR YOUR CHURCH • BY BRIAN FUKUSHIMA •
I'M BEGINNING TO WORRY. ALL THE THINGS I REGRET IN LIFE ARE REALLY SMALL
YEAH, I SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN THE LARGE SHIRT. XL IS JUST TOO BIG
I GUESS IT'S GOOD THAT I DONT GET BENT OUT OF SHAPE ABOUT LOTS OF STUFF
OF COURSE I WAS JUSTIFIED IN TELLING THAT CLOWN TO FUCK OFF. HE'S A CLOWN!
BUT I'M CONCERNED THAT RATHER THAN EASYGOING AND HAPPY-GO-LUCKY, I'M ACTUALLY JUST REALLY PETTY!
JEEZ I WISH I PUT PETA ON THIS PIZZA
Granted, I'M still young so I should HAVE LOTS OF TIME TO DO GREAT THINGS WHICH I WILL LATER REGRET
Hey this latest comic I've drawn proves that there is no God! Wait'll I tell...
BENTCOMICS.COM
I GUESS IN MY MIND I KNOW WHAT'S DONE IS DONE. OF COURSE MY SUPREME LAZINESS HELPS THE FATE THEORY.
BUT OH HOW I TORTURE MYSELF...
MAN I WISH I HADNT SOLD ALL MY TOYS WHEN I WAS 12, I HAD THIS HILARIOUS SHIPWRECK FIGURE WITH THE
MMMHPH
AND TO PROVE I ONLY SWEAT THE INCONSEQUENTIAL, I REALLY REGRET NOT MAKING THIS STRIP FUNNIER. WOOPS.
HOLY SHIT I SHOULD READ SOME FAMILY CIRCUS FOR INSPIRATION!
END


A DAY IN THE LIFE OF SAM AND FUZZY PART 3
©2001 BY SAM LOGAN
esrever@rocketmail.com
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WON'T LET ME FINISH MY FILM ABOUT OUR LIVES, SAM.
I'M SURE IT WILL SINK IN EVENTUALLY.
TAXI
I MEAN, NOW WHAT THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH FIFTY CASES OF SAM AND FUZZY ACTION FIGURES?
THEY WERE A GUARANTEED HIT! THE SAM TOY HAD A REMOVABLE HEAD AND EVERYTHING.
POP!
UH, WHY DID THE SAM TOY NEED A REMOVABLE HEAD?
REALISM. AND FUZZY CAME WITH A LIGHTER!
SIGH. FORGET I EVEN ASKED.
LOOK, I CAN LIGHT YOU ON FIRE.
SLO!!

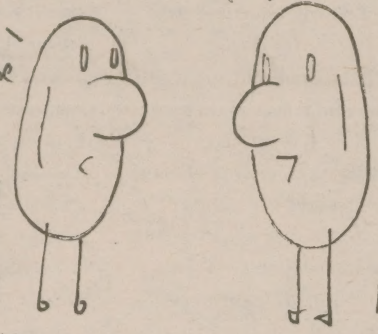
JIMMY FOULMOUTH

↳the f#!@-ing tribute comic



Goombas (a Martlet.org

Looking back on "buy nothing" day, maybe it should be called "eat nothing, turn on no lights nothing, stay off your bike, blades, board and out of your car nothing, burn down society and kill your dog day." You know, so it makes sense.



Yeah, maybe then we'll all be writhing grimace-faced in the starvation economy of a global depression, like the "buy-nothing 1930's". Now *there* was a blockade on sensibility done the right way.

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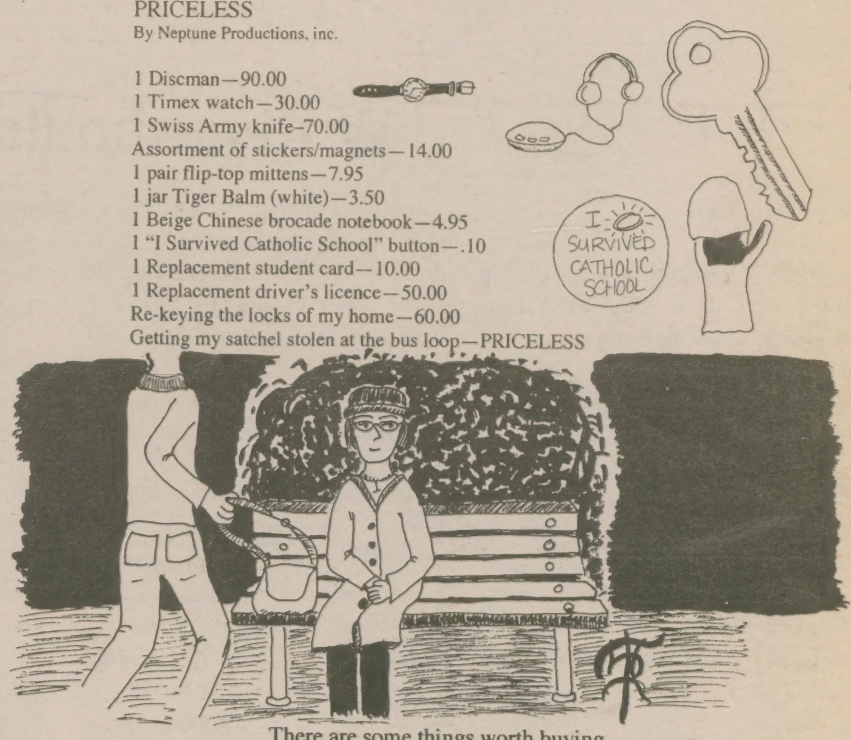
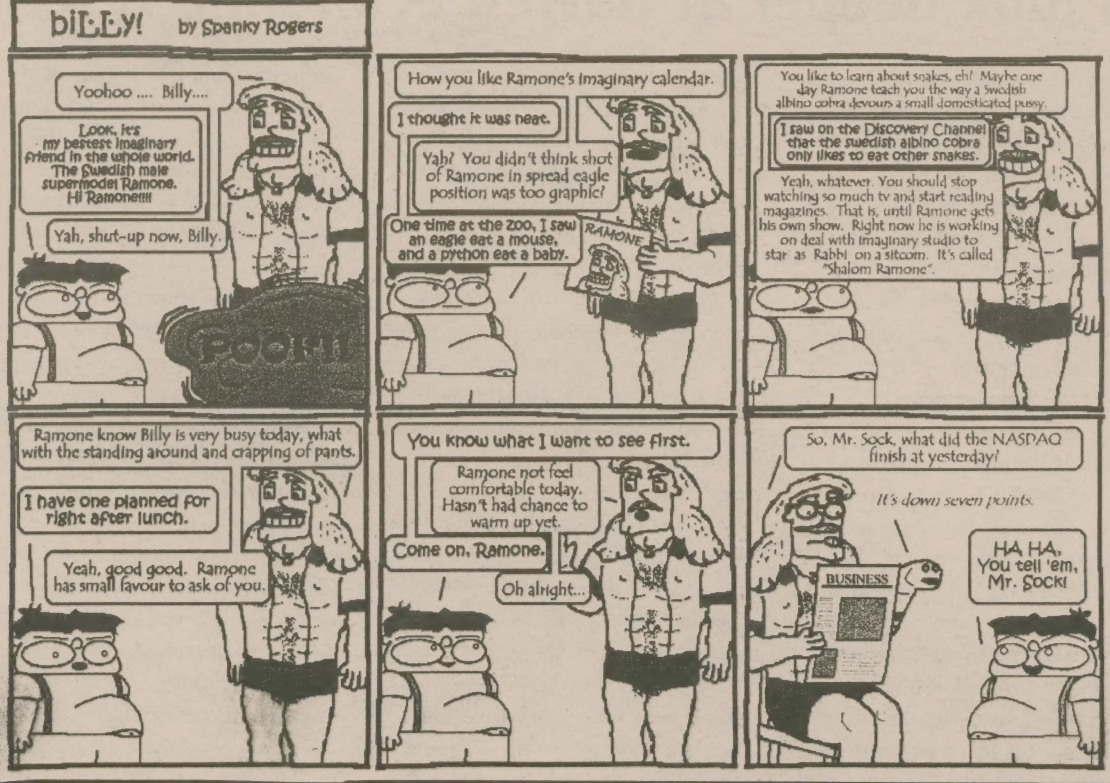
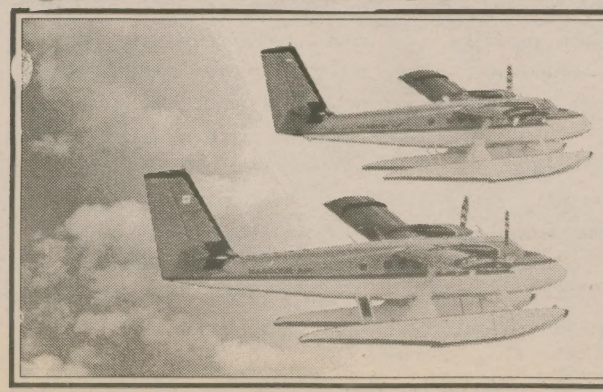

PRICELESS
By Neptune Productions, inc.
1 Discman—90.00
1 Timex watch—30.00
1 Swiss Army knife–70.00
Assortment of stickers/magnets—14.00
1 pair flip-top mittens—7.95
1 jar Tiger Balm (white)—3.50
1 Beige Chinese brocade notebook—4.95
1 "I Survived Catholic School" button—.10
1 Replacement student card—10.00
1 Replacement driver's licence—50.00
Re-keying the locks of my home—60.00
Getting my satchel stolen at the bus loop—PRICELESS
I SURVIVED CATHOLIC SCHOOL
There are some things worth buying.
For everything else, there's theft.
Dear Mr Robber: Please return my Chinese brocade notebook. It is the only thing of mine you stole that I can't replace. If you return my notebook I'll lift the curse I placed on the discman. If you have to steal, why not target a corporation, not students who are riding the bus??


bILLY! by Spanky Rogers
Yoohoo .... Billy....
Look, it's my bestest imaginary friend in the whole world. The Swedish male supermodel Ramone. Hi Ramone!!!!
Yah, shut-up now, Billy.
POOF!!!
How you like Ramone's imaginary calendar.
I thought it was neat.
Yah? You didn't think shot of Ramone in spread eagle position was too graphic?
One time at the zoo, I saw an eagle eat a mouse, and a python eat a baby.
RAMONE
You like to learn about snakes, eh? Maybe one day Ramone teach you the way a Swedish albino cobra devours a small domesticated pussy.
I saw on the Discovery Channel that the Swedish albino cobra only likes to eat other snakes.
Yeah, whatever. You should stop watching so much tv and start reading magazines. That is, until Ramone gets his own show. Right now he is working on deal with imaginary studio to star as Rabbi on a sitcom. It's called "Shalom Ramone".
Ramone know Billy is very busy today, what with the standing around and crapping of pants.
I have one planned for right after lunch.
Yeah, good good. Ramone has small favour to ask of you.
You know what I want to see first.
Ramone not feel comfortable today. Hasn't had chance to warm up yet.
Come on, Ramone.
Oh alright...
So, Mr. Sock, what did the NASDAQ finish at yesterday?
It's down seven points.
BUSINESS
HA HA, You tell 'em, Mr. Sock!



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